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Dear Readers

The youth of various countries face different challenges, but a common factor being their restless quest of knowledge. Education is a distant dream for many, but it determines the future of that region. Knowledge plays a very important role in channelising the energies of the youth in the right direction.

The hunger for knowledge in the youth of any region is commendable and should not be suppressed. But, many a times it is seen that in search of knowledge, young men and women read whatever they can lay their hands on. This is where the problem lies; when youth are exposed to third-rate stuff their approach gets polluted. Many young people go astray and develop psychological distortions that are anti-social in effect.

The society of which we are members has a duty in this regard—to provide quality and informative material. Unfortunately, there is a glut in the market of publications that have little use.

We on our part have always been conscious of the fact that we have a big responsibility on our shoulders, of providing the right knowledge to the youth. This January '96 Special New Year issue is one more effort from our side to provide the youth the knowledge that will help them to contribute constructively in the upliftment of our country.

With best wishes

Sincerely

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READERS' FORUM

The best two letters of the month, appearing in the box, have been awarded a prize of Rs 100.00 each. Readers are invited to send us their views on topics covered in this issue. The decision of the Editors will be final

GANDHI'S RELEVANCE

In a world full of violence, Gandhian philosophy is much more relevant today than in the past. We cannot ignore him, and if we do so it will lead us to degeneration.

Anil Kumar Yadav
Naxalbari, West Bengal

Criticising Gandhi by some politicians does not indicate that his philosophy is irrelevant, it only shows lack of understanding. Gandhian philosophy is universally relevant and offers a peaceful and everlasting solution for various conflicts.

V Annapurna
Hyderabad

It is our culture to slander national figures and get instant limelight. People who do this expose their own shortcomings. But in the future Gandhian values will surely see a revival

Dhiraj Aluja
New Delhi

We should try to mould ourselves in Gandhian philosophy for our survival rather than question its relevance. Following the West blindly is not the path of survival.

Subhash Kumar
Rikha, Bihar

THE CULTURE DEBATE

If people feel that following Western culture is modernisation, then it is a misleading thought. Modernisation is reached by broadening of thoughts and views. It is wrong to think one is modern just by aping the West

Romila Singh
Munger, Bihar

Culture is not something immovable. It includes changes in the condition of life and grows our personality. Tradition represents the accumulated wisdom of ages

and helps us in noble achievements.

Geeta Rai
Burdah, U.P.

Culture is the mental aspect or nature behind our life. It makes us sophisticated, pure and pious. It makes our attitude towards life.

Manoj Kumar Mishra
Atira, Orissa

STATUS OF WOMEN

There are many problems that plague women — dowry, purdah, harassment—yet the Beijing conference comes out with a routine document for their development. What is the use of such conferences?

Bishnurajjan Saikia
Jaunguri Hat, Assam

The status of women has declined over a period of time. It would not be wrong to say that her status has degraded from *ardhangini* to *abhangini*. Governments should make special laws to remove the inequality and discrimination against women.

Sundeep K Verma
Patna

Usually women themselves are responsible for their discrimination. Mothers deny them education, mothers-in-law harass them for dowry. For Indian policy makers the first step should be changing attitudes in India rather than attending women's conferences.

Chitrasena Mandala
Behraampur, Orissa

GODMEN OR CONMEN

All over the world there are people who are weak. They get satisfaction by hearing good things. Godmen take advantage of this. The educated should take the lead by showing that Godmen help achieve nothing and dependence on them will only result in frustration

Anirhid Sircar
Dhanbad, Bihar

CHILD LABOUR: A SHAME

This new year, if we could save a little money from our parties and send it to the poor children who work as labourers, it will make society look into the evil of child labour. What better way to celebrate New Year than to help someone out

GANDHI TRANSCENDS TIME AND SPACE

Gandhiji transcends all in time and space because he did not serve a particular cause or community. He did not abuse power like Lenin or Stalin. He is relevant today because his thoughts are the only solution to problems of the modern world. People who criticise him are sure to be rejected by the people and will soon be forgotten.

Md Shaukat Ali Khan
Nurpur, West Bengal

GODMEN OR CONMEN

The fact that scores of people are swayed by charlatans is reflective of insecurity of people. Man is obsessed by materialism but every desire must have a limit so that spiritual enlightened is not neglected.

Neelu Sharma
New Delhi

of bondage, into freedom'

Kusum Lata
Delhi

CM FEATURES

CM is my favourite magazine since my school days.

Prem Swarup Panigrahi
Sambalpur, Orissa

Whenever I feel down, I go through the personality feature. The feature "Dispel Dysphoria" really helped me.

Jyoti Ranjan Biswal
Durgapur, Orissa

CM is the only magazine that gives information for examinations as well as for personal development.

Diyaesh Kumar Dubey
Lucknow.

REQUEST TO READERS

May be you have appeared in some competitive exams recently. We shall be grateful if you could send us the question papers. All those sending the original question papers will be suitably compensated and the original papers will be returned.

—Editor

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Wither Our Democracy

When George Bernard Shaw compared democracy with an illiterate portman who engages someone else to distribute the mail, he was making a bitter but truthful attack on democracy. Our own democracy, boastfully called the biggest in the world, has also been described as "functional anarchy". A Russian leader on visit to India quipped that he had started believing in God after seeing Indian democracy in action! The implication being that only God was running it.

It has become customary to decry the failure of our leadership, the losses in our public sector undertakings, corruption in offices and political machinery, the filth in our educational institutions, the bribery in public services, judiciary, jobbery, nepotism, want of honesty, principles and hard work.

Thinkers come out with brilliant suggestions to improve this great institution of the people. No human institution can be improved unless the men who run them are improved. Unless men of courage replace men of straw, no democracy, no socialism, (whatever it is) stands a chance of success.

We pinpoint leaders' acts of corruption, double standards, protection of goonda elements, ways of raising funds, building houses, getting lands and amassing wealth.

Go to a college or university function. Hear principals and learned professors delivering high-sounding orations. We feel we are listening to the most virtuous men and women. We feel our country can hold a candle to any other in sound character and high morals. A few days later we get disgusted on knowing from a shopkeeper that the same high priests of character and morality get fake receipts for the purchases made for the institutions! Educationists who preach to students the need for character, morals and a clean life, do not hesitate to invite corrupt and disgraced ministers to grace their annual functions.

Our officers are the reverse of what they ought to be. They

are haughty and proud, a class in themselves. They are snobs and seldom mix with people. Like leaders, they are also "servants" of the people!

Our politicians pose as simple, meek servants of the people. Ours is the only country where politics is not regarded as a profession. Our politicians prefer to call themselves servants, and politics is the means to this service. Yet, what kind of service do they render? They amass wealth, accept bribes, get involved in all kind of scandals, forget to pay their income tax, give licences to their henchmen, allow the prices of essential

commodities to shoot up to get funds for elections, enjoy privileges and amenities which they grudge to others, though guaranteed by the Constitution. All animals are equal but some animals are more equal than others!

And, democracy, we are told is but a love for equality. To be the favourite of an ignorant multitude, a leader must descend to their level. He must desire what they desire and do what they do not approve. He must yield to their prejudice and substitute them for principles. Instead of eliminating their errors, he must adopt them and furnish the sophistry that will defend them. Fisher Ames has thus summed up

the quality and character of our leadership and democracy.

Today the country can boast of only a handful of men with strong minds, great hearts; men with true faith; men with ready hands, men whom the lust of office does not hire; men whom the spoils of office cannot buy; men who possess opinions and a will; men who have honour, men who will not lie.

Work, honest endeavour are the only talisman that can take our lives out of meaninglessness. We must have the grit to tackle our problems, the fighting spirit, and the courage of our convictions.

All the ills of democracy can be cured by more of democracy. But we need leaders whose hands are on the pulse of the people, not in their purse.



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ESSAY

Policing and Human Rights

THE ugly face of police is a cause of concern amongst the general public as well as the higher echelons of the police and the administration. Of late, with the information explosion much has come out with regard to abuse of power by the police.

The police is vested with certain legal powers which it has to exercise in course of discharge of its duties. The powers relate to arrest, interrogation of witness/suspects, remand and detention of accused, search and seizure and confession. The police is also vested with powers to use minimum force in discharge of law and order situations. These powers are, however, not absolute and have further been balanced in the criminal justice system, i.e. the judiciary, where police is a party with a burden of proof on it.

The Human Rights concept has its fountainhead in the Declaration of the Human Rights by the United Nations in 1948. These rights reflect deeply held human aspirations and aspire for a society that is both stable and progressive.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights has thirty articles which mainly cover equality of human beings; right to freedom without distinction of any kind; right to life, liberty and security of person; equality before law and protection from arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

If we juxtapose the powers of police, vis-a-vis the human rights of an individual, we invariably find that the police has tremendous amount of latitude to misuse its powers. The accused is at the receiving end in terms of his human dignity and examples are galore when the police has physically tortured and killed individuals who were in its custody. The issue is complicated because various parts of the criminal justice system are not working in tandem and often working at cross-purposes, much to the detriment of the individual who has got involved. Be-

sides, at the social level also police receives contradictory signals. The Bhagalpur blinding case, which is perhaps the biggest blemish on the human rights record of the police, witnessed the people taking to streets in favour of the police. The electronic media, which is very powerful, also portrays police as dispensers of justice, rather the facilitators of justice. All these contradictory signals, emanating from various channels of society, go to complicate the issue of human rights vis-a-vis policing.

Any instrument of the government has to work within the framework of the society. As early as Chandragupta's time, policing system was existing in India. Chanakya dwelt upon it in his work and with the coming of the Arabs, and subsequently the Mughals, the penal system too evolved. A distinct watershed in the field of policing was the British period. The Britishers had to use Indians against Indians. The policy they adopted was that the policeman at the cutting edge was given powers but not sufficient money in consonance with the duties he performed. The inevitable results of this was the misuse of the power. Unfortunately, independence in 1947 and the subsequent coming into force of the Constitution in India, did not change the scenario. Though democracy was established, the police force remained the strong arm of the administration. The cutting edge till date is ill paid, under-trained, lacks motivation and education and is perceived as a tool in the hands of politicians. This has resulted into dehumanised insensitive and brutal police force.

In the Indian scenario, death in police custody, torture by police to extract confessions, excessive use of force in dealing with law and order situations and fake encounters have been traditional human rights issues. The recent years have brought forth tremendous changes in the

challenges faced by the police force. Terrorism, insurgency, religious fundamentalism and economic crime, as well as organised crime in terms of crime syndicates, are on the rise. The technological changes have caught the police force ill prepared and without time to train itself afresh to the new situations. The performance of the forces in terms of results in terrorist affected areas have been exemplary but it cannot be denied that on the scale of human rights the forces have come a cropper. Many a times the reactions of the force have been disproportionate and insensitive. While the issues of human rights of traditional nature are comparatively easy to handle, the new forces which are emerging are required to be fought by the police force at a very sensitive level. A slight error of judgement has either repercussion at social level or the morale of the policeman at cutting edge suffers.

The human rights issue has global dimensions too. For example, the President of America brackets the raging wars in Somalia with that of the situation in Kashmir in India. Thus, actions of police forces have now even become a subject of international politics/diplomacy as the world is going geopolitical. The dimensions of this scale are not fixed keeping in view the local Indian conditions; rather the rules of international politics apply. However, such aberrations in the human rights movement can only be fought at diplomatic level and more importantly a strong human rights movement in our country can effectively counter it. The setting up of Human Rights Commission in India is an effective step in this direction.

In the present world we are living in an information age wherein much public opinion about issues and incident are moulded by the media, both electronic and print. In the era of competitiveness, sensationalism becomes an instrument of success. Unfortunately, this success is achieved at the cost of distorted pictures being painted. The general public is very

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credulous about the printed word too. A news item in newspaper/magazine is taken as gospel truth. Today, the vernacular and the local press indulges in yellow journalism for its sheer survival.

Invariably, the much harassed police force every time becomes a favourite whipping boy of the media. In the present scenario of terrorism and insurgency all actions of police are to be viewed keeping the overall sensitivity of the issues involved.

Much has been spoken, written and argued about the human rights of accused and the abuses perpetrated by the police on them. However, lot remains to be done with regard to the human rights of the victim. The rights of victims are yet to catch the imagination of the media, the NGOs and also the police force. The case in example can be taken about the terrorist for whom killing innocent people at will is a common phenomenon. But, when such

terrorists are apprehended by the security forces their first refuge is a case of violation of their human rights. The point here is not to say that terrorists are not worthy of being treated with human dignity; the argument here is that the society also has responsibility towards those whose innocent sons, brothers and family members have been killed. Timely compensation and sense of security needs to be instilled amongst terrorist victims. After a terrorist strike it is not just police alone but the whole administrative machinery, the NGOs, as well as the society at large which have to play their role together. Immediate help to the victim results in defeating the purpose of the perpetrator. Hence, the rights of the victim too are integrally linked to the issue of human rights and policing.

The basic duty of the police is prevention and detection of crime. Unfortunately, the police force at one end of the

spectrum is busy with VIP security, traffic and other sundry duties, while at the other end ill equipped and undertrained. The casualty in the scheme of things has been the basic duty of the police and its credibility.

In order to overcome these deficiencies the police force needs to sensitise its cutting edge, improve its media profile and inculcate professional discipline. The political masters should understand the *locus-standi* of police in the society and also the fact that misuse of police force not only maligns the cadres and its efficiencies and discipline, it also weakens the nation. At the people's level there is an immense need of citizens who view the police with understanding and honest criticism. It is only when these aspects work in tandem can we look forward to a force which is restrained and respects the dignity of an individual.

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Genetics: Tinkering with Life

Many of us must have wondered why people belonging to one family look alike, have the same characteristics and are vulnerable to the same disease. Why, for instance, do some people have a particular shape of nose which characterise them, or the colour of their eyes or other common hereditary traits? Almost as if by a secret code, a living being knows exactly what it should look like as it grows. A tiny seed contains the code of an entire tree.

Scientists have tried to decipher what makes us what we are. The search led to genetics. Man has been doing genetic selection in plants and animals over the years; today we are in a position to tinker with human genes. While the technology promises to open up gene therapy and cure some hereditary diseases, it also gives man the power of playing God. Are we heading towards genetically engineered babies, controlling each feature and quality? What if we are able to isolate genes that cause ageing and remove them from our system? Will we ultimately make a race of superhumans? And, are we responsible enough?

These things may seem futuristic but have come within the realm of reality today. Of immediate concern is the attempt by multinational companies to patent genes found in poor countries. Fears are being raised that traditional knowledge will become the property of these companies, and genetics will become another technology to divide the rich and the poor.

Our cover feature comes at a time of remarkable breakthrough in biotechnology. In the US, a human ear has been grown on a mouse and bone marrow from a baboon has been implanted into an AIDS patient. Our feature explains the science in easy language, describes how genes function and looks at the latest developments in technology while also debating the ethical issues involved.

It must be a sobering thought that everything about us—our appearance, behaviour, vulnerability to disease—is governed by the flimsy strands of deoxyribonucleic acid, the DNA. This is the genetic material of all living things, the language in which our basic scripts were written. It is also the chemical basis of heredity, the genetic transmission of individual traits from parents to offspring.

This transmission takes place in a most fascinating way. Inside the nucleus of a human cell are 46 chromosomes. DNA is found in these, consisting of a long

chain spiral called the double helix and connected by rungs of nitrogenous compounds. Each parent contributes a piece of DNA which combine and proceed to create a set of instructions for the new being.

Scientists have been trying to decipher this ever since Francis Crick and James Watson showed how DNA could carry genetic information in the rungs of the spiral staircase. Miracles of miniaturisation, the threads of DNA are made up of sugar and phosphates with the rungs made of two of the four nitrogenous bases: adenine (A), thymine (T), cytosine (C)

and guanine (G)

Executing Commands

Scientists have already seen how the DNA executes its demands.

The ladder unzips, exposing the bases. These then attract freely floating complementing bases: A attracts T and C attracts G and vice versa. A new sequence is formed transcribed into ribonucleic acid, RNA and forms a ribbon. The RNA then detaches itself from the DNA and proceeds from the cell to direct protein assembly essential to the life of its host.

RNA is the transporting medium that carries the protein assembly instructions. In the RNA, uracil (U) takes the form of thymine. Instructions are in the three-letter words, each base being a letter. For example, GGC specifies the amino acid glycine and UCC specifies serine. The chain of amino acids as made by the RNA folds up into a characteristic bundle to become a functioning protein molecule and determines the protein's function.

Biologists first got a look at these extraordinary building blocks of life in bacteria. It was in E. Coli that scientists learnt that the main function of the DNA is to direct the manufacture of proteins. They also saw the function of the messenger RNA which carries out the genetic message from the nucleus to the cellular machine that executes the command.

Each gene spells out instructions like a sentence. But the complexity of the problem is trying to find out and sequence all the rungs in the ladder called base pairs. The simple bacteria E. Coli has a genetic blueprint that is 4.5 million base pairs long. In a human being there are 3.5 billion such rungs on the helical ladder. The gigantic nature of the task can well be imagined and has been compared to the Apollo project.

The job is made more difficult by discovery of DNA that apparently does nothing. Genetic gibberish or junk bands, it is strings of DNA that are neither used for anything nor does it describe anything. Unused DNA may contain evolutionary history—accumulation of genes that are no longer used; or they may contain something useful which may be discovered later. Why the body keeps its “junk DNA” and does not discard it is also not clear.

Gene Therapy

The study of genetics is expected to change the way we look at ourselves. Tomorrow's medicine will aim to correct defective genes, or make the body immune to certain diseases by introducing engineered genes. Hereditary defects could also be corrected by tinkering with genes.

Genetic therapy represents dramatic change over conventional medicine, in the sense that genes can be altered to build immunity to a certain disease. However, methods have still not been found to alter genes or to introduce foreign genes into a cell.

Already, sites are known on human chromosomes where gene defects contribute to disease. A gene abnormality that increases the risk of diabetes is on chromosome 6; the cause of Down's syndrome on chromosome 21. A disease like cancer arises when the body's DNA starts producing an abnormal gene which does

not have the ability to stop the production of cells, like normal ones. By supplanting defective genes with normal ones, such diseases could be cured.

But the promise of genetic medicine has not yet been realised. There is no conclusive proof that gene therapy has cured a single patient thus far. One problem is how to transport the engineered genes into affected cells. The immune system of the body is primed to fight precisely this kind of biological invasion and rejects the engineered genes when they are introduced.

An attempt has been made to introduce outside genes into babies whose immune systems are not fully developed. Though their bodies did not reject the foreign genes, it cannot conclusively be said that the therapy did good to them.

Gene therapy has a long way to go but the presence of multinational companies, which are funding the research, is causing a premature rush to commercialise the technology even though it is not proven. However, the possibility of genetic medicine making big strides in the near future cannot be ruled out. Among these are:

Baldness: The genes that account for hair growth remain unknown. But scientists have found ways to push genes into hair follicles; and have begun to zero in on the elusive “hair growth factor”, the signal that tells normal skin to form a hair follicle and sprout.

Obesity genes: Scientists have found the DNA sequ-

ence of the gene that causes some mice to keep eating even though they may be obese. The gene, called the *ob* gene, opens up new questions about its behaviour and raises the possibility of treatments for fat people. The *ob* gene tells the brain to stop eating. When injected with protein made by *ob* gene, called leptin, fat mice which had a

defective *ob* gene lost a lot of weight. While the findings are still premature, understanding the biology of obesity could provide ways of tackling the condition.

Hypertension: Scientists have been looking for the gene that causes hypertension. Experimenting with rats, they were able to knock out the gene that causes hyperten-

Supermen?

Humans have made use of diverse genetic resources found in nature for a long time. They have, over a period of time, selected plants which grow better and faster, hens that laid more eggs, and cows that gave more milk. Austrian monk Gregor Mendel laid the cornerstone of the science of genetics in 1866. He had worked over 7 years with pea plants, but his findings had to be rediscovered in 1900. The science was first called “genetics” in 1906. The term “gene” was coined in 1909.

Agriculture has been transformed by genetics. Yields of almost all crops have risen dramatically over the years. About 50 per cent of these increases can be attributed to genetic resources. Animals have also been engineered to give better yields. Now it is the turn of humans.

Though much research is still to be done, scientists the world over are engaged in research that promises to change our ideas about the way we are. For example, are we just a chemical machine, producing proteins inside us that make us what we are? Or are we more than that? Can we be engineered to look like someone else? Can intelligence be increased by tinkering with genes?

The questions may not have answers now, but leads us to a frightening conclusion. Supposing the best genes are isolated by scientists and given to unborn children? Suppose we are able to engineer humans to the extent that they have all the good qualities we want to achieve? We can then have a nation with fair people, with the most beautiful features and with great intelligence. A kind of a super race that Hitler dreamed of.

In a world riddled with inequalities and bigotry, the new race will indeed be a dangerous one. Even without genetic research Germans had started believing in the idea of a super race during the years leading to the world war. The exploitation of caste in India by people who believed themselves to be superior, is all too familiar. What if the rich countries end up making a superior race by selecting and introducing better genes?

Where does it leave the rest of us?

COVER FEATURE

sion in rats. Mice that had the genes knocked out did have low blood pressure, but the males became infertile. Efforts are on to study why this happens.

Cancer: Scientists at the Tata Memorial Cancer Research Institute in Bombay have reported isolating a gene from malignant tumours. The transformation of a normal cell to a cancerous cell was seen to be a genetic phenomenon. The Tata Institute, after eight years of research, realised that it was DNA damage that resulted in cancer growth. Experimenting with animals, it was found that the P-53 gene, if introduced externally, would result in the cancerous growth vanishing completely. Further research could establish the actual functioning of the gene and could result in a cure for the dreaded disease.

Homosexuality: Apart from the question whether it is ethical to screen a gene that causes homosexuality or whether it qualifies for gene therapy or not, scientists have been looking for a gene common to homosexuals. By comparing the chromosomes of homosexual brothers, researchers have found one region which is thought to harbour genes that cause homosexuality. Further research would be needed to establish how these genes could be rectified.

Ownership of genetic resources

A question which continues to haunt poor countries is that of ownership of genetic resources. While human genes are being

patented, another threat comes from patenting plant and animal genes.

It is the poor countries who are rich in genetic resources. For instance, India is one of the world's 12 leading biodiversity centres with over 45,000 plant species. We have 16 different agro climatic zones, 10 vegetation zones, 25 biotic provinces and 426 habitats of different species, called biomes. Due to this, the country has about 18,000 flowering plant species, 2,500 algae, 23,000 fungi, 1,600 lichens and 30 million types of micro organisms.

Unfortunately, poor countries like India do not have facilities for genetic research. Only the rich countries have that. So the genes from the poor countries can be 'discovered' in the West and patented there, leaving the host country high and dry.

Increasingly, companies from rich countries are patenting genes. There is a belief among many people that the poor countries are being ripped off. They do not have the research to use their resources and these are exploited by companies to make newer and better products. The people of poor countries must buy these at exorbitant prices, often paying royalty for what was theirs to begin with. At the same time, to prevent the poor countries from duplicating processes, they are being forced to amend their patent laws to provide protection to foreign inventions.

To give an example how this dual protection works, take the case of W R Grace & Co, a US company which has

patented a neem based pesticide. Grace's pesticide is based on an ancient and widely known extraction process. Neem is part of India's folklore and is known as *sarva roga nivarini*, meaning the curer of all ailments. The tree is traditionally known to cure leprosy, diabetes, ulcers, skin disorders and constipation. The US company uses this traditional and free knowledge to develop a better product which is patented. Whose property is it?

The issue of biological resources was on the agenda of the Earth Summit held in 1992. The biodiversity convention declared that countries have a sovereign right to their resources and that benefits deriving from them should be shared fairly. The US has yet to ratify the treaty.

Genes For Sale

Since genetic research has largely been funded by multinational companies, they are

now looking for the fruits of their funding. Companies are also buying up patents of genes outright for future profit. Researchers are rushing in to get patents even without testing the results fully.

The German company Boehringer Ingelheim has bought the exclusive rights to patent the genes that cause asthma, for \$ 70 million. The obesity gene has been patented by Amgen, a Los Angeles biotechnology company. There seems to be a genetic "gold rush" to buy up as many genes as possible for developing medicines later on. Huge markets are expected to emerge from the genetically engineered medicine. The obesity gene, for example, may help develop a cure for fat people who wish to control their weight, resulting in huge profits for the company.

The development is good because permanent control of these diseases will be at hand. But at the same time, these discoveries will become the

Genetic Vocabulary

Gene: Inside the nucleus of every animal or plant cell are chromosomes, thread shaped bodies consisting largely of DNA. Short lengths of each chromosome are called genes which confer particular characteristics in organisms that inherit them. There is a gene for eye colour in humans. A variant of the gene gives blue eyes to one, green to another, and brown to still another. Variants of the same gene are called alleles.

Gene pool: The total number of genes within a group of interbreeding plants or animals, that is, the pool of genes within a population.

Genotype: A particular combination of genes.

Genome: A given set of chromosomes. The human genome which is currently being mapped, consists of all the genes and their sequence found in a human.

Bio Informatics: Refers to the use of proprietary and high tech computer methods for collecting, editing, analysing and storing DNA sequence information.

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monopoly of multinational companies. Countries like India, which are nowhere in this modern game, stand to lose a great deal. Not only will they lose out on modern medicines, but they will also find their knowledge of *ayurveda* taken away from them.

Biotechnology in India

The biotechnology business in India spans a wide range of activity, from high yielding seeds to livestock varieties. Bugs that eat pollutants and fish to clean distillery effluents and development of pesticides that are not harmful to the environment are some of the things that are being developed. Enzymes are used to give the 'stonewashed' effect on jeans.

In India, the biotechnology business, which was Rs 100 crore in 1989, has grown to Rs 900 crore now. It is expected that it will be worth Rs 3500 crore, annually, by the end of the century.

The Vittal Mallya Scientific Research Foundation, belonging to the United Breweries (UB) group, has collaborated with a French company. It plans to manufacture human insulin in the country. The Spic Science Foundation has set up an indigenous tissue culture centre at Coimbatore. The National Bank for Business and Rural Development (NABARD) is assisting the project; which is also manufacturing bio pesticides, hybrid seeds and industrial enzymes. The company has developed Neem Gold, a botanical pesticide

and Bio-Gold, a biofertilizer.

Other companies which have come in the field of biotechnology are: Cadilla, Wipro, Lupin Laboratories, Ranbaxy and Sun Pharmaceuticals. There is no doubt that the private sector is leading the thrust, leaving the government's Department of Biotechnology (DBT) far behind. However, the States of Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Kerala and Tamil Nadu have plans to develop biotech based industries with help from DBT. Kerala has taken the initiative to set up the country's first biotech park.

Biotech Consortium India Ltd has been set up to facilitate technology transfer and provide financial assistance to this industry.

Gene banks are also being set up, which will help preserve medicinal plants on the verge of extinction. The National Facility for Plant Tissue Culture Repository in New Delhi is setting up a gene bank which will be complete by 1997 and store 10 million plant samples. Three more gene banks are being set up under a G-15 programme at National Bureau of Plant and Genetic Resources, New Delhi, Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Lucknow, and the Tropical Botanical Garden and Research Institute, Thiruvananthapuram.

Interest in medicine derived from plants is expected to increase in the future. India has a system of herbal medicine which stands to be exploited and patented by the West. Indian research centres, led by the Council for

Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), are seeking patentable genes, though belatedly. The Tropical Botanical Garden and Research Institute (TBGRI) has started the second gene prospecting programme to identify patentable genes.

Effects on Agriculture

While the biotechnology business is expanding, there is also a steady increase of people who question the effects on Indian agriculture. If plant genes become the private property of companies, they question, where does it leave the farmer? Traditionally, farmers have saved seeds from their crops. Now, that right is being taken away by companies.

This will push up the cost of seeds and other inputs. The high cost of patented agriculture products being developed by the companies will push up costs, wiping out small and marginal farmers. Agriculture will become a capital intensive industry, limiting access to a public wealth. The Gene Campaign has been able to build up awareness among the farmers. Cargill Seeds, a multinational company, was forced to wind up their operations in India after a sustained campaign by farmers.

"How about a royalty on every potato?" ask other activists. If genes can be patented, surely the farmer should be paid royalty for the traditional knowledge of the present day genetic varieties, collected over the years. The

American company which has patented the neem gene could draw on it only because it is used in traditional medicine. Is it not liable for royalty payments to the poor farmers of India?

Tinkering with life

Genetics gives us the power to tinker with God's design. Though it is unfair in many ways, it cannot be avoided altogether. However, the poor countries can try to safeguard their interests by asking for protection of traditional knowledge, by a system similar to patents, in international conventions.

However, it is a fascinating science. Genetics shows us the design of creation. Apart from material benefits to mankind, it may also show us the science of evolution. Why, for instance, do certain genes become dormant with the passage of time? Why do other genes become active?

Maybe the 'junk DNA' contains genes that were used once but lie dormant today. By activating those, can we create a man looking like our forefathers? Whether the answer is yes or no, there is no doubt that Jurassic Park is a distinct possibility.

But, as man gets the power to play God, it is also wise to remember that playing God is a responsible post. As the secrets of genetics, the very basis of life, are discovered in the coming years, it would do good to remind ourselves that man cannot take upon himself the power of life. Whenever he has done so, it has resulted in disaster.

SPECIAL FEATURE

The Future of International Organisations

This year the United Nations turned fifty amid reports of financial irregularities and questions about its usefulness. Many questioned its role in a world which had changed since it was founded. Its peace keeping abilities have taken a severe beating and many nations, notably the United States, have not paid their dues, pushing the organisation into a severe financial crisis.

Questions were also being raised about the Non Aligned Movement (NAM) which held its 11th summit at Cartagena, Columbia. Since the world did not have two super-powers now, non-alignment could no longer be a strategy to maintain balance of power. Had it outlived its utility? Members of the movement sought to give it a fresh face in the post-Cold war era whether they would succeed remained to be seen.

This feature examines the international organisations in the changed world realities. It looks at the UN declaration and the efforts of the NAM to restructure. What is the future of these prestigious organisations?

THE United Nations was established on October 24, 1945. The world had seen the devastating World War and did not want another. The UN's charter was based on this very hope: "We the peoples of the United Nations determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war", it says.

Fifty years later the organisation can review its report card. The world has thankfully not seen another world war, but the UN may have contributed little toward the effort. It was perhaps naive in the first place to believe that countries would be able to resolve their differences through debate and discussion. It was also naive to believe that a body of nations could control nations who wanted to re-

solve differences through force. No organisation, least of all the UN, could ever control all the warring nations. Today, that very naivete is costing the organisation its very credibility.

To be fair, the UN has not been a complete failure. In many areas, notably social development and humanitarian causes, the organisation has led the way. In the past 50 years, its activities have been rewarded with the Nobel Peace Prize five times and to another six individuals for their work in the organisation. It has been active in relief, rehabilitation and development programmes all over the world.

The UN aided the birth of 100 newly independent States, encouraged development through economic cooperation and campaigned against racial and other forms of discrimination. It promoted respect for human rights and in 1948 established the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Through declarations and conventions, it has given rights to women and children. It also codified and enlarged international law, including law of the sea and protection of global commons. It initiated joint action on supranational issues like ozone depletion, environmental protection and terrorism.

It has helped focus world attention on severe problems that affect mankind. Among the important conferences it has held are: i) UN Conference on Environment and Development at Rio, ii) the Cairo Population conference, iii) on social development at Copenhagen, iv) on women at the historic Beijing conference, v) on children at New York, and vi) on human rights at Vienna.

Poor countries have benefitted from the developmental assistance provided by the UN.

Criticism of UN

BUT even though many share Prime Minister Narasimha Rao's sentiment that "the United Nations remains the humankind's beacon of hope", the organisation has also come in for criticism that it no longer serves a useful purpose.

There have been unqualified failures of the UN in troubled places as Somalia, Haiti, Rwanda and Bosnia. During the Gulf War it provided a fig leaf of legitimacy for the military action by USA. In many places, it has just stood by and watched people's sufferings: Iraqi Kurds, Afghanistan and Sudan. The UN finds itself helpless in resolving conflicts. Many places in the world have ongoing wars with little chance of being resolved.

In her new book *Utopia Lost*, British journalist Rosemary Righter says that the UN has been a mere bystander in the developments taking place in the world for the past 50 years. Critics say that it has become too big and really has nothing to do. Its peace-keeping capabilities are being called into question: often it can do nothing when regional conflicts take place. Peace-keeping, it is believed, should be left to regional groups or professional armies which the UN can requisition. If civil war breaks out among traditionally warring groups such as the Hutus and Tutsies in Rwanda, they should be left to do what they like to their own people.

The UN bureaucracy has also come in for severe censure. It is described as bloated and inefficient, as "the biggest industry in humbug". Its ability to act is restricted by the five veto-wielding powers, America, Russia, China, Britain and France. Even its social initiatives have been described as mere talk shows, where ster-

The debate takes place and nothing constructive ever happens. Declarations at these conferences are mere statements of good intentions but countries do not have the will or resources to cure themselves of poverty and social evils that plague them. Nor has the UN brought about a better North-South cooperation to solve these problems.

Apart from the highly paid UN employees who severely limit its efficiency, there have also been reports of financial irregularities. The organisation is plagued by waste, abuse and incompetence. Millions of dollars have vanished from its programmes in different countries, an indication of lack of proper management.

Renewing the System

AMONG the demands that are being voiced is the restructuring of the Security Council. The Council is based on a pattern of power relevant 50 years ago. Germany and Japan, whose financial contributions rank second to USA, are still not permanent members. The developing world is not adequately represented.

A fundamental necessity is the greater representation of the developing world. Without this, the UN's legitimacy is limited. India, Brazil and Egypt have strong claims to represent the Third World but there is no agreement yet of their positions. The image of the UN is that it has become the handmaid of the powerful and this has to be changed if it is to play a useful role.

A report 'Renewing the United Nations System' mentions that the UN system must be restructured. There are calls for restructuring the Security Council to better reflect world realities.

Is NAM too defunct?

ANOTHER organisation which has similar questions about its usefulness is NAM. Since the world is not divided into two superpowers, the issue of alignment with any does not arise. Ideally, it should be discarded as a relic of bipolar global politics, say the critics.

The NAM summits, as its last one at Cartagena in Columbia, come up with the

usual pleas for disarmament, free trade, unrestricted flow of technology and reducing the debt of poor countries. Like the UN summits, there are doubts whether they achieve anything at all. The rich countries evidently do not take them seriously. Just a few months back the nuclear weapon countries had voted for an indefinite and unconditional extension of the Non Proliferation Treaty (NPT) without any regard for the call for disarmament that NAM issued.

With the emergence of regional trading blocs, the cohesion among the non-aligned has eroded. The NAM has not increased its effectiveness in dealing with its problems, which have persisted even after the cold war. The significance of the NAM as an international force has thus weakened considerably.

At its summit, an attempt was made to encourage trade and investment among member countries. According to Samper Pizano, President of Columbia and chairman of the summit, the movement should have a "more realistic, pragmatic and effective instrument of economic cooperation". But this seems far-fetched, since the 113 members of the NAM are hardly homogenous.

Both NAM and UN suffer from similar inaction. NAM remained a silent spectator during the Gulf War and the ongoing crisis in Bosnia. It has done nothing to lift the embargo against Libya, a NAM member. It also remained in a stupor when the Kuwait crisis arose. In fact, the movement has become moribund and almost defunct except for issuing platitudinous rhetoric and statements which no one, least of all the rich nations, takes seriously.

One deficiency is that the NAM does not have a secretariat to follow up on decisions taken. The movement exists only in its triennial summits and is not able to do anything in between. There is no doubt that the NAM has to be restructured to be meaningful instead of merely giving politicians a chance to travel abroad.

Future of international organisations

BOTH NAM and UN face questions about their future. They have not

changed with the changing world realities and now find themselves without anything to do. It is the trade organisations like the ASEAN, OPEC and WTO which can wield some power over member countries. The other organisations exist from meeting to meeting, with little work in between. Even the SAARC hopes to establish a trading organisation, SAPTA, because it realises that an organisation formed for mere cooperation achieves nothing. But neither the UN nor NAM can ever represent a trading bloc.

The UN cannot exist in the future with its peace-keeping role and the organiser of mega conferences. Nor can NAM exist as a mere movement. Both organisations must find meaningful roles for themselves. It has been suggested that the UN should be made the custodian of a global Internet, an information manager rather than an influencer of governments. This might even help it generate revenue for itself.

Without any meaningful role, the UN charter finalised by 185 countries this year is destined to remain meaningless. It talks of the expected things like global peace, development issues, equality among nations, justice and rule of law. It calls on the international community to act to defeat common threats such as terrorism. It assures equal rights for men and women. "The practical and moral challenge of our time is to redirect it to a greater service to mankind, especially those who are suffering and are deeply deprived."

The charter no doubt has some meaningful talk. But the trouble is that a person with an average intelligence could pen it down. An allegiance to the document means nothing, as do good intentions.

The question before international organisations is whether good intentions require international summits. What these organisations are suffering from is an overdose of words and too little action. Do we need these statements of good intentions at all? To be meaningful, both the NAM and the UN have to move beyond rhetoric to some actual action. Whether they can do so remains to be seen.

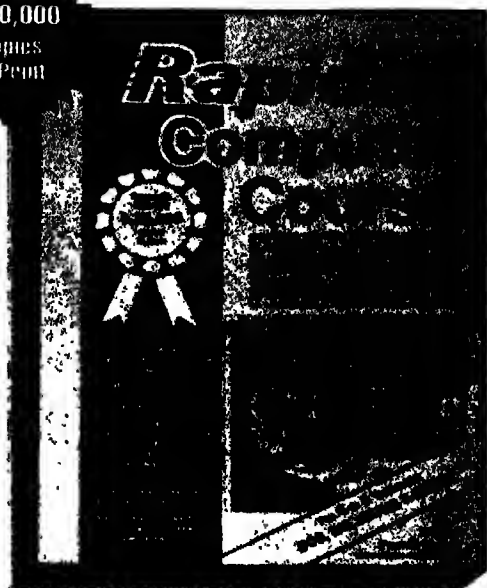
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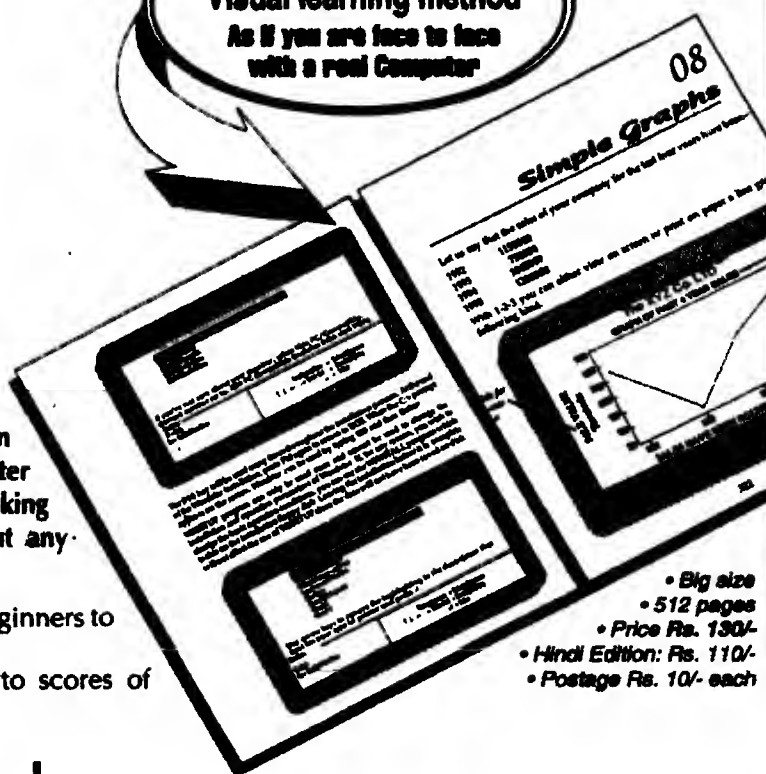
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ARTICLE

Rural Poverty Alleviation in India: A Critique

Since early seventies poverty alleviation has been the favourite subject of the politicians, particularly when the elections draw nearer. Indeed, poverty is a deep-rooted and stubborn historical phenomenon in Indian system and needs special attention. Several policies have been adopted by the Government from time to time to effectively tackle this problem. With the advent of Second Five Year Plan, it was expected that rapid industrialisation would automatically result in overall economic development in the economy and raise the income levels for all classes of population. But after almost 20-year of planned growth, it was realised that the so-called "trickle down" theory proved to be wrong. The reasons were not far to seek. The economy was in the preliminary stages of development and the economic system and mechanisms were not fully developed. The phase of gradual shift from a barter economy to a monetised one was still continuing. However, failure of the trickle down theory gave rise to a new phenomenon—direct attack on the poverty with the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP).

Integrated Approach

IRDP was introduced as an integrated programme in which income generating assets are provided to the families living below poverty line, through a loan-subsidy package. The aim is to enable the beneficiary families to increase their income levels by having an asset like a milch cattle, a petty shop, a small nursery or small handicraft unit. The interest on the loan component of the package is substantially subsidised. For activities needing technical or professional training, provision for training through master-craftsmen or technical training institutions like ITI

has been kept through a programme called TRYSEM (Training Rural Youth for Self-Employment). After the training, TRYSEM trainees are rehabilitated by providing a loan-subsidy package. Another important component of IRDP is the employment generation programmes, now integrated into one programme known as Jawahar Rozgar Yojna (JRY). It aims at providing rural employment for the people living below poverty line. Another programme called DWCRA (Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas) is operating in certain development blocks and is aimed at taking up group activities which could result in socio-economic welfare of these vulnerable sections of the society.

This integrated package was mainly aimed at economic development of identified people living below poverty line. It was expected that this "frontal attack" on rural poverty would result in immediate reduction in the incidence of poverty in the rural areas. But as the programme was put to execution, several lacunae were noticed. Firstly, the identification of beneficiaries was an uphill task and if there were certain flaws in the identification, it would affect the results of the entire programme. As the element of subsidy was involved, malpractices crept in. Target orientation resulted in only increasing the number of beneficiaries every year, without evaluating the impact of the programme properly. Number of persons/families which crossed the poverty line, was much smaller than the number of persons who were provided assistance under the programme. In some cases the assistance provided was so meagre that it could not assist the beneficiary adequately. Particularly in case of milch cattle, the even-

tuality of death of the cattle derailed the entire process. Once the assistance was provided, the executing agencies virtually forgot about the beneficiary. In many cases, the beneficiaries could not repay the loan which resulted in their turning defaulter and ineligible for the second dose of assistance. Many got entrapped in indebtedness.

After the process of economic reforms was initiated in 1991, for the first two years the poverty alleviations programmes were relegated to lower position in the order of priority. Virtually, the days of "Trickle down" concept were again back. By the end of 1994 the remarks of an official committee revealed that the percentage of people living below poverty line had in fact increased from 36 per cent in 1991 to nearly 40 per cent. It was mainly due to the furore created by the report, as well as the ensuing Lok Sabha elections, that the Government woke up to the gravity of situation and in addition to strengthening some old schemes, introduced some new welfare schemes aimed at benefitting the rural, particularly poor population.

Misplaced Orientation

RURAL poverty alleviation programme have been lacking imagination and totality. The underlying assumptions on which the IRDP operates is that the poor family would, all of a sudden, turn into an efficient entrepreneur and no infrastructural bottlenecks exist in the rural areas. Another assumption is that increased family income would result in socio-economic and infra-structural development in the rural areas. Recent UNDP report on the social development has ranked India at a poor 134th position among 174 countries of the world. The

report exposes serious pitfalls in the field of social development and shows social indicators like literacy, primary education, women participation, infant mortality ratio and birth rate in a very poor light. The reason for the lopsided achievement in development is the lack of appropriate orientation in our rural development programme. The basic assumptions made about the economic development, thus appear to be out of place.

One of the factors haunting foreign investors in India is poor infrastructure in the rural areas. Road and rail communications, tele-communications, availability of electricity and other transportation facilities are utterly poor in India. The availability of proper warehouses and cold storages in the rural areas is negligible. Even social infrastructure—like schools, colleges, health care facilities and institutions, availability of irrigation and drinking water and sanitation facilities—is extremely poor. IRDP has focussed on the incomes of individual family but no integrated approach was adopted to ensure orderly and rapid growth of socio-economic and other infrastructure in the rural areas. Unless these facilities are improved, rural development in India would remain a pipe-dream.

The key to rural development in a country like India lies in the development of agriculture which largely remains primitive. Empirical rate of growth in agricultural sector has been just two per cent, which barely equals the population growth rate. Secondary (industry) and Tertiary (services) sectors have been growing much rapidly. The Tertiary sector is contributing 40 per cent to the GDP, followed by 32 per cent contribution by the manufacturing sector, pushing the primary sector to the last position with just 28 per cent contribution to the GDP. It also means that returns in the farm sector are almost stagnant and the productivity is poor.

Hence, one of the factors recognised to have perpetuated the rural poverty is declining capital formation in the farming sector and declining gross investment

(in real terms) in agriculture. In the year 1980-81, capital formation in the farm sector was 18 per cent of which 11 per cent was in private sector and 7 per cent in the public sector. This percentage fell by 50 per cent to just 9 per cent within almost a decade, by 1992-93, with 6.9 per cent in private sector and 2.1 per cent in the public sector. One of the solutions, therefore, lies in sizeably increasing the investment in the agricultural sector.

There has been sudden increase in funds for the rural development during the past two years. Rural Development Ministry outlay as a whole was increased from Rs 6030 crore in 1994-95 to Rs 6540 crore in 1995-96. Number of dwelling houses to be constructed under Indira Awas Yojana has been raised from 4 lakhs in 1994-95 to 10 lakhs in 1995-96. Similarly, the target of generating mandays under the JRY has been enhanced from 1050 million to 1290 million mandays. The number of development blocks, covered under the Employment Assurance Scheme, has also been increased to 2443 during 1995-96, as compared to 1752 blocks during the previous year. In March 1995, 6 new departments were created to have a sharper focus on rural poverty alleviation. Again, the assumption is that spending of more funds would result in more economic development in rural areas. Several new welfare schemes have been introduced for the people living below poverty line and a sum of Rs 4000 crore is expected to be spent on the execution of these schemes. But, how much impact these schemes will have on poverty, with just half a per cent of the GDP for this purpose, remains to be seen.

Future Strategy

MOST of the developing countries in Asia have achieved substantial reduction in incidence of poverty. Countries like China, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand have achieved tremendous success in bringing down the impact of poverty. Their achievements in the field of social development have also been commendable, pushing them ahead of India in the

HDI (Human Development Index), given in the UNDP report for the year 1995. While poverty alleviation acts as an election gimmick in India these countries have religiously pursued the target of poverty eradication, keeping aside the political considerations.

The government, therefore, needs to follow a four-pronged attack on rural poverty. Firstly, special attention must be paid towards strengthening infrastructure in rural areas. A modest beginning has been made in the current year's budget proposals by providing reasonably good incentives for the private investors to invest in the infrastructure sector. Secondly, investment in the farm sector needs to be stepped up considerably. Mechanisation of agriculture and improvement of irrigation facilities, to cover maximum possible area under cultivation, are two such areas of investment. Improvements in existing marketing facilities of the agricultural produce and its increased processing are other areas of investment which can largely assist the agriculture in particular and poverty alleviation in general. Thirdly, government must encourage such industrialisation in the rural areas which can result in suitable growth in employment opportunities. This will, on the one hand reduce the disguised unemployment in the farm sector, thereby increasing its productivity, on the other it would result in more incomes and increased production. Finally, implementation of all the programmes aimed at economic and social development in rural areas, in an integrated manner, by the government agencies, with proper coordination, would also result in excellent achievements. Any laxity in implementing these programmes may retard the process of development. All the above policy measures, along with the existing programmes, are expected to result in rapid social and economic development in the rural areas, thereby releasing the majority of the rural population from the clutches of scourge of poverty. That would be the happy ending to a long wait to see the light at the end of a long and dark tunnel of poverty, for hundreds of millions.

Do Beauty and Brains Go Together

There are many critics of the current popularity of beauty contests in India. It is said that they demean women and usher in the thinking that beauty is everything and intelligence does not matter. Media has also been full of images of beautiful but dumb women, epitomised by the popular line, "Lily, don't be silly".

But do these images represent the true nature of women? Are beautiful women necessarily dumb? We debate this age old question in the light of increasing participation of women in everyday life as well in the beauty related industry.

Miss A I would like to start the discussion by saying that this myth about beauty and brains was started by the media. Intelligent people are generally portrayed as sloppy and careless about their appearance while beautiful girls are shown to be dull. In movies we have seen them either in silly roles as gangsters' molls or as the suffering housewives who stick with their husbands no matter how badly they treat her. In advertisements, beautiful women are just decorative showpieces. This has given the impression that one can be brainy or beautiful, but not both. But this is wrong. Today, women have shown that they can have both beauty and brains: in colleges and universities girls frequently outscore boys. There are women pilots, engineers and doctors. Moreover, there are beauty contests where both qualities are tested and the winner is one who has both. So we should not be carried away by media stereotypes; if we see

the real world, beauty and brains go together.

Mr B Though I agree with you that our thinking is shaped by media stereotypes, still if we look carefully we find that women are either beautiful or brainy but seldom both. You are right about women doing many jobs that they did not do before. But women scientists and doctors cannot be said to be beautiful. Even the university toppers that you talk about, are certainly not beautiful. That is why you will find pretty girls employed as receptionists but at an important position the woman will not be beautiful. There are beautiful women in fields where no brain is required—films, modelling and so on. In the beauty contests that you mention, the winners no doubt have both beauty and brains, but they are exceptions. And exceptions do not prove the rule. Let us not look at the few cases of recent Miss Indias and conclude that both go together. The fact is that either a girl is beautiful or brainy. Moreover, even in the beauty contests, girls are expected to show off their bodies no matter how intelligent they are. They are thinly disguised body shows. The intelligence is only an add-on, to impart a little respectability to the shows. So it is wrong to say that beauty and brains go together.

Miss C I take exception to that. What do you mean that toppers or women scientists are not beautiful? If they were not beautiful, could they get married? The fact that they lead normal

lives shows that they too have beauty. Your second point about beauty contests being body shows is also wrong. How can a young girl answer the questions put to her if she is not intelligent? Even the professions of acting and modelling require brains. If they were mechanical jobs not requiring brains everyone could do them. Why don't you look at other fields too? Can you tell me of any other field where men, with their so called superior intelligence, have brought international fame to India? We are miserable in sports. Our industry cannot compete abroad. It is only the combination of beauty and brains that have brought any kind of recognition to India. In the beauty contests, the most beautiful girl does not necessarily win. The difference is the intelligence.

Mr D I agree with both the ladies. Girls have a certain amount of intelligence. There have been no tests to prove that girls actually have lower IQ than men. And beauty is a subjective term. Each girl has some beauty. Thus it is wrong to say that toppers or women who achieve something are not beautiful. Possibly what is implied here is that women achievers have less time to apply make-up and look after their appearance as other girls may have. That gives the impression that women achievers are not beautiful and that beauty and brains do not go together. Our idea about beauty is universal beauty which appeals to all. Does a girl

who has universal beauty also have brains? I don't think the example of beauty contests is the right one. Such contests are just body shows. The so called questions that are supposed to test intelligence actually do not do so. Any girl can mug up some lines about 'inner beauty' or learn up some lines about peace, love and harmony and blurt them out at the contest. She can claim on stage to work for the poor, the old or the children. Most of it is fashionable but hypocritical and does not show any intelligence. Today, an average looking girl can learn all the right things and say them on stage to win the contest. It has nothing to do with brains. Thus, I do not agree with your argument that beauty contests show that beauty and brains go together. What the contests test is confidence and presence of mind. So let's not talk of contests only.

Miss E I agree with you. To some extent women have themselves to blame for their image. It is they who take part in beauty contests giving the impression that they are vain. Many girls in college, especially ones belonging to rich families, show off their clothes and cosmetics as if that is all that matters. Being noticed is their main aim and they spend most of their time trying to look beautiful. They are not interested in other pursuits. On the other hand, there are girls who are serious at studies and at other things. Some of them are just plain and do not spend money or time on their looks. This gives the impression that beauty and brains just do not go together. It is either this or that. Only rarely will you find a girl that combines both looks and is good at other things. I think our colleges should have a course on appearance also. Achievers should be taught to look after their appearance and girls who do not do well should be encouraged to learn other constructive

things. This will help them do something important rather than end up as receptionists. This will also change the perception that beauty and brains do not go together.

Mr B Let me also say that the image of beauty not going with brains comes from what the women do in their spare time. Many ladies indulge in useless pursuits like shopping and talking. Kitty parties are the rage among married women. To a man this means that they not only have nothing to do, but are incapable of doing anything meaningful. If the women did something useful, this kind of thinking would not arise at all. The women who end up doing something, are the ones in highly visible professions such as films and modelling. In these professions they have to show their charms which again implies that they don't have brains.

Miss A Have you ever thought why women take part in kitty parties? It is not because they like them, but because they cannot pursue separate careers. Women normally have to give up their jobs when the husbands are transferred. How can they take up a profession which shows their intellectual skills? They have to take up temporary jobs in the cities where they may be, or do something else to fight their boredom. Kitty parties are taken up not out of choice but out of necessity. In a male-dominated world, this is the best that they can do. Our culture too treats women badly. Women are treated as sex objects who must be covered in *purdah* for fear of showing their beauty. In many homes, they are not allowed to go out or work. And then you blame them for not being brainy. Thankfully, all that is changing. But men's attitudes are still not changing and they are unable to see women as their equals. They like to categorize them as beautiful or brainy. Fortunately, that is changing.

Miss C I think men too have to change their attitudes. Men have always treated women as objects of consumption. That is why they categorise girls as being beautiful or not; then they want to see whether the girl has brains. Do we talk the same way about men, whether they are handsome and brainy? Real equality will come only when all of us, whether men or women, are recognised by achievements rather than by looks. Unfortunately, women are always judged by two criteria and one of them is looks. Why does beauty come into it at all? Why not look at the achievements of the women only? Most men cannot bear any girl to be superior to them. When you use those expressions it is because men suffer from inferiority complex. Beauty is something only girls can have. So men feel threatened if a girl rises to a responsible position and is beautiful as well. In our male-dominated society, girls are kept down at all stages and are ill treated. Men just cannot bear to see them succeed. So this whole discussion about beauty and brains. Women are human beings too and must have intelligence. If they did not have intelligence, they could not do many things that they end up doing.

Mr D We do not deny that women have intelligence. But in a male-dominated world, it is still difficult that men accept them as equals. In recent studies, it has been shown that IQ must be balanced by EQ or Emotional Intelligence. Mere IQ is not enough. In his book *Emotional Intelligence*, Daniel Goleman suggests that understanding one's feelings, feeling empathy for others and regulating emotions are important for success. I feel women always had a natural talent for these. In the end, we may discover that beauty and brains may actually go together, no matter what we might think today.

PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT

Challenge Your Destiny

BBROADLY speaking, people can be divided into two categories: believers and non-believers in destiny. The former are dismissed as fatalists whereas the latter are flatteringly called challengers. There is an element of truth in each contention.

Destiny is the scapegoat which we make responsible for our own follies. It is used as an excuse when adversity strikes. We find shelter under it when we should be striving against it.

Destiny is the phase of the weak heart—an apology for the human error. The strong admit of no destiny, except in matters of birth and death.

The fact is, however, that thoughts lead on to purpose; purpose goes forth in action; action forms habits; habits decide character and character fixes our destiny.

This gem of a thought from Tryon Edwards reveals that the germ of destiny lies buried first in our own thought which culminates into action. Shakespeare meant the same when he said, "Character is destiny."

Mole Hills

MEN do not stumble over mountains but over mole-hills. We meet a difficulty and it scares us. We lack courage and confidence—and the mole-hill grows into a mountain.

There is no need, for each one of us possesses enormous hidden resources which we have never yet tapped. Life is safe and generous. Enough is there from day to day, though we may not enjoy riches. So, if the time comes when difficulties rain down upon us, we tend to be bewildered, thinking the worst and that it is the end of our world.

Did we but know if we have endless resources to help us through the hardest going? If we will train our minds to keep calm and to think and reason instead of

being swayed by fears and emotions, we can muster our strength and by faith and confidence conquer our destiny.

It is a tough world. We are passing through hard times. We are already weary. But we must acknowledge and accept the fact that difficulties are part of life. There is no one who escapes—though it may appear to the on-looker that some do.

To everyone in turn comes a period of trial. Set-backs and tragedies will come to us all, but we have a reserve of strength within each of us that makes us strong enough to stand up against them like trees at mountain tops weathering storms.

If this were not so, we never fight, never struggle and never achieve. Achievement is the result of adversity and difficulty. If there were always ease, we would have no need to struggle. We go aimlessly through life, getting no-where, making no progress.

Goal

CUT out the words "Can't" and "Impossible" out of your vocabulary. We all need to acquire confidence; some more, some less.

Take your own situation and practise faith in the ultimate good that can arise out of it. You lack much confidence to send in to tackle your situation. But start. Make a beginning. The very act of starting doubles your confidence.

People take a morbid pleasure in sitting down under tragedy and difficulty saying —"Isn't this terrible? I can't do anything now. I'm beaten."

Of course they are beaten—out of their own minds. You get from life what you put into it. Put in defeat, despair, difficulty and that is what you reap. Fight—weigh up the odds and then defy them with some practical thought and action. You reap a positive reward straight away.

Other people have solved and over-

come greater problems than yours. So you are going to fight. It is the way we think that counts—that colours all our actions. Everything is determined by what goes on in the mind. So banish fear, doubt and pessimism now!

In looking forward to this New Year, no matter what your problems, get your mind right first. Think positive thoughts. Hold on to your thoughts of confidence and success, and though they may be slow to develop, gradually they will take hold of you and negative thoughts will disappear.

Future

LOOK ahead—not too far, for you may be crossing bridges you may never reach. Just take the first step—the first month. Make your plan, tackle that problem, increase your confidence.

Get busy doing, learning, practising something. Let your confidence grow—and there is nothing you cannot overcome in the eleven months to follow. Cease to stumble over mole-hills in mistake for mountains! "When the going gets tough, let the tough get going!"

We dread tomorrow coming owing to the events of today. We know the meaning of fear, uncertainty, anxiety. In short we are experiencing the unexpected and disconcerting problems. Right through our school years and on to college or University, if we went that far.

We develop courage to some degree, or suffer the consequences—fear, embarrassment, shame, feelings of inferiority. The amount of courage we need depends upon individual circumstances. The clever child of relatively poor parents needs considerable courage while rubbing shoulders with his or her more affluent college associates.

The crippled student requires another kind of courage to endure his handicap. Even the slightly less intelligent student



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must exercise courage to plod his stumbling way to a higher education.

Courage

COURAGE wells up as from a hidden spring within the human soul. It is a kind of inspiration that first has to be tapped, then stimulated and directed.

The technique—like anything else worth learning—isn't easy, but very few of us lack the ability to learn it if we really try. Everything depends upon our mental attitude towards the trials and troubles of life.

One may not have been born with certain natural or material assets possessed by the "lucky few". We may have met more than our deserved share of opposition, in terms of people or conditions. Yet you do have one great power. You have the ability to control and direct your own thoughts.

We must learn, to induce the inspiration of courage, is to dispel all negative thoughts of failure, future unhappiness and similar depressing possibilities. Thoughts and convictions we decide to hold in the present determine, to a great extent, our so-called future.

The term "so-called future" is used with intent. What is the "future", but the present—when we reach it? Today was the "future", only yesterday!

This brings home to us the remarkable truth that the present is the only time we should concentrate upon. What happens tomorrow depends almost entirely upon what we decide and how we act today.

Present

THE influences which we inaugurate and which eventually react upon us, have their origin in the present. Therefore, we can formulate practical demands on the "future" with confidence.

It is no use sitting down idly, and merely wishing and hoping that the future will provide the good fortune we need. This negligent attitude fails to stir the depths of our potential power.

Our thoughts and affirmations must be intelligent, concentrated, consistent, unwearied and confident. We can expect ultimate fulfilment in relation to the clarity of our thoughts and the persistence of our action.

We are the *machines* of our own destiny. Are we making the fullest use of our own capacity now, in the present? Or we wasting our energies by feeling uncertain of our powers, fearful of failure, full of anxiety about our future?

Do not be vague, indefinite, doubtful, fearful, hesitant. Aware of the highest potential power you can imagine. Your only limitations are the limits of your belief.

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Descriptive Questions

Loss of memory

Q. If human beings all over the world lose their memory (faculty to remember). State three possible consequences that would happen as a result of the loss of memory among human beings.

Ans. Memory, as we all know, is a unique and ubiquitous trait of human personality. It is such a forceful faculty among human beings as has been working wonders in all walks of life since time immemorial. We only realise its wonderful place and power in human aspirations and achievements when, in old age, memory starts receding into narrow cells and then disappears at long last. Since loss of memory among the aged is a disease, we feel sorry for the victims and pray for their peaceful and honourable exit from this highly selfish and self-seeking world. But if by any chance or catastrophe, human beings, regardless of their age, race or sex, lose their memory, the consequences would be too grim and gory to be visualised in their awful intensity.

First of all, the adverse effect of such a mishap would be felt among members or blood relations living under a common roof or sharing a common lineage or hereditary harmony. When all of a sudden, the memory lane goes dry and dark, it would become almost impossible to say 'who is who'. All relationships would come under severe strain and suspicion. With the power of recollection having disappeared from the lives of human beings, the breaking up of the most potent institutions like family, may not take much time to happen.

The worst affected would be those who are patients, and have been advised to take medicines at regular intervals. The other sufferers would be the students at all levels of learning, because without

memory or the power to remember, they would present blank faces both in classes and examination halls. Since the entire pattern of education and examination all over the world is based on the reproduction of facts and figures, analyses and assessments, mostly drawn from books or other media, loss of memory would bring the age-old edifice tumbling down.

Last but not least are the creative artists and writers who receive sustainable support for their creative works from the sensitive source of 'emotions recollected in tranquillity'. In the absence of memory, they may fail to concretise their past experiences and encounters with beauty and other objects of inspiration. Likewise the writers of biographies and autobiographies, historical treatises etc may find many a gaping holes in their narrations (books or manuscripts) for want of definite and reliable clues provided by the memory lane.

All the World is a Stage

Q. 'All the world is a stage'. In the light of this comment (proverb) state your views based on experience, reading and observation.

Ans. The comment, though cryptic, contains or carries the Kernel of wisdom which only a mighty mind like that of Shakespeare could conceive and express. For us, the whole world is like a stage where our entry is heralded at the time of birth and exit announced with our death. By and large our roles are cut out but in exceptional cases, like Gandhi, the role evolves itself till it becomes a symbol of an ideal or a glorious goal. All that is visible creates illusions and images for us so that our energies remain in a state of movement and we are never found wanting in courage and confidence. On the

other hand, the invisible is shrouded in myths and mysteries, which only the saints and seers try to unravel. In short, all human beings have their roles to play on the theatre of this world. For some, the sum and substance of their acting is the enrichment of life, whereas for others, human activities are only 'sound and fury' signifying nothing. For an optimist, every positive action is a step forward towards the betterment of human condition. Seemingly, some actions or roles may appear big and significant while others may fail to catch others' attention. But in the drama of life, there is no role which is irrelevant and irreverent.

Change is the law of nature. From a crude and cruel stage that the world was in the initial stages of human civilisation, we find the range of our roles not confined to one particular place or people. With glamour and glitter around, sophistication and success syndrome reigning supreme on our imagination and ideas, our roles have undergone a sea change. We are too impatient to stay content with what we have and crave for the moon, little knowing that over-acting can result in self-suffocation. An obsession to continuously and completely occupy the centre stage has become the cause of so many aberrations and distortions in the socio-economic and socio-political theatre of the world.

How we explore and exploit the given opportunity is the response and responsibility of an individual actor or actress. Whether we excel in our roles or prove mediocre on the stage and remain a part of the crowd, is our own doing. It hardly matters, if some are born with a silver spoon in their mouth, because there are numerous others on the stage of this world who make the miracle of 'rags to riches' a ringing reality. We should make the best use of every

chance, possibility and opportunity that comes our way, while we are breathing life into our roles in the world that is a big stage.

Controlling floods

Q. Suggest three most effective steps to control the fury of floods. Substantiate how the measures suggested by you would be effective.

Ans. If timely and adequate rainfall, besides other factors, has brought about the 'Green Revolution', it has played havoc as well so far as the fury and destructive power of floods is concerned. If the damage was over Rs 200 crore way back in 1968, the average loss during the last one decade from floods has been to the tune of nearly Rs 2000 crore. No doubt, in a country like India where so much damage caused by flood has been attributed to the rainfall pattern, containing flood waters is a daunting task. But still, with proper planning and timely action, it may be possible to control if not prevent the onslaught of floods and the resultant trail of destruction. The following measures, if taken in the right earnest, can go a long way in minimising the damage.

Since floods occur when the run-off water from the catchment areas exceeds the bank capacity of the rivers, the run-off water can be stored in reservoirs and tanks, specially made for this purpose, and which can be released after the rivers recede. Desilting of dams and the construction of additional cushions can accumulate run-off water that can be used during the dry season. We can also identify natural depression areas existing in the upper reaches where water can be stored.

Precautionary measures like construction of embankments have not proved effective and sufficient enough to control or contain flood waters in the past. Embankments do not serve much purpose as they prevent water locally only. Moreover, it is unaffordable to embank the entire river stretch.

Before the onset of monsoon, such States as are generally visited by floods, should clean canals, channels, sewers and

drains. Half-hearted measures or measures taken only on files, can cause immense damage and destruction to the people and places due to sudden accumulation of water or choking of sewerage system in urban areas. The countryside can avoid the marauding mire and misery that the floods bring in their trail if preventive and suitable steps are taken well before the advent of the rainy season.

Malnutrition among women and Children

Q. The problem of malnutrition among women and children in India is a serious one. Suggest some suitable and practical steps to tackle the problem.

Ans. The problem of making (both) ends meet and providing nutritious eatables to a vast majority of their people, the Third World countries are face to face with a daunting dilemma. According to WB definition in 1994, only countries above \$ 675 per capita are middle income economies and if in the midst of all-pervasive clamour for liberalisation or globalisation, the per capita income of an average Indian was \$ 290 in 1993 (IMF) or less than a dollar per day, the level of nutrition or malnutrition among its vast population can be well imagined. According to a UNICEF report, one in three infants in the country is born with low birth weight which is a symptom of malnutrition inherited from the mother who herself is malnourished. While poverty accounts for about one-third of malnutrition especially among women and children, lack of knowledge and inappropriate care also plays a major role. The irony of situation is that despite India being self-sufficient in food, extensive growth failure in children below six years due to malnutrition continues (UNICEF).

The problem of Low Birth Weight (LBW) is rooted in maternal under-nutrition and anaemia, which contributes to pre-mature birth and peri-natal mortality. Early marriage results in early child bearing which in turn leads to reduced adolescent growth and the inter-generational cycle of malnutrition. The tendency among

women in the re-productive stage, to forego wholesome or complete diet or meals, even if they can afford it, is fraught with many health complications later on. Through an extensive use of films, posters, pictures and other visual aids, women of all categories, need to be informed and instructed how even ordinary food or other eatables can provide nutrition to the body, if they are taken in time and properly. To spare everything for the males and starve or under-feed themselves, is not the best service that women think they can render to the family. Unless they look after themselves as well as their men folk and children, they cannot hope to have the better of the enemy—the curse of malnutrition.

The issue of malnutrition among school children will be taken care of to a great extent if the 'Mid-day meals' scheme launched by the Central government in more than five lakh primary schools in the country is sincerely and scrupulously implemented. The State-run food processing units can be asked to prepare such food products as are rich in nutrition but low in price to be made available to the poorest of the poor through fair-price shops. The revamping of the Public Distribution System should also include the supply of nutritious food to the most vulnerable sections of society both in rural and urban areas.

Experts point out that household food insecurity, inadequate care of women and children and insufficient health service accompanied by an unhealthy environment are the underlying causes of malnutrition. In order to overcome these obvious odds, PDS, employment generation and poverty alleviation programmes need to be expanded and strengthened both in letter and spirit. The chronic callousness that 'everything works' or 'non-accountability' in matters of programme implementation has to be thrown lock, stock and barrel. Last but not least is the crying need to improve the purchasing power of the landless and migrant labourers, the rural and urban poor without much fuss or fanfare.

CAREER

Engineering

Careers in Engineering offer varied openings and opportunities. Ranging from traditional fields like Civil, Mechanical and electrical, engineering services have invaded new areas like electronics, aeronautics, marine engineering, agricultural engineering, environmental engineering, telecommunications and management. In all the above fields, the engineers are entrusted with the most crucial technical operations.

Booming Opportunities

With the Indian economy opening up and the process of liberalisation and reforms picking up rapidly, industrial growth rate has been very good during the previous as well as the current financial year. A large number of multinational companies have come put up joint ventures. Thus has increased the demand for technical manpower greatly. While the demand for traditional specialisations like civil, mechanical, electrical and electronic engineers still has its own place, additional demand in the field of telecom, power refrigeration and environment sectors has jacked up the demand for engineers.

Power sector offers job opportunities to civil, mechanical and electrical engineers, both in public and private sectors. Earlier, this sector was the exclusive monopoly of the public sector but after the sector was thrown open to the private entrepreneurs, several big companies and groups are trying hard to get into power sector, both in the field of thermal as well as hydel.

Telecommunications is another area which has created a huge demand for technical professionals. Traditionally reserved for the Government Sector, opening up of this area for the private sector has enhanced the opportunities manifold. Being

entirely technical in nature, even for marketing and overall management, candidates from engineering stream are required. Electronics, electrical and telecommunication engineers are needed the most by this sector. The private parties are mostly multinationals with advanced technology in the varied fields like radio pagers, cellular phones, VSAT networks, FAX, privatised telecommunications and E. mail. In addition, business managers, information technologists, services support staff, designing and installation staff, and research and development are some of the areas which would also need increasing number of engineers to effectively control the growth of this important sector.

Another rapidly growing new field of engineering is environmental engineering. Being of recent origin, it covers areas like air pollution, water pollution, nuclear pollution, noise pollution, ecological upgradation and development, wild life, soil conservation, waste land management, etc. Demand for engineers had been there from the government enforcing agencies like pollution control boards. With the increasing awareness about environment, all the State and Central level bodies are being strengthened, resulting in more vacancies being created. As the enforcing agencies are tightening the noose around the necks of private owners, big industrial unit have started recruiting the environmental professionals to look after their effluent treatment plants and solid-waste treatment plants. With the Research and Development also picking up in the field of environment engineering, the future growth of this discipline is likely to be very impressive.

For several years now, the growth of export of engineering goods has been very impressive. This sector has formed major

percentage of rapidly growing exports of India. This also points to the growing need of engineers in the industrial sector. Key manufacturing processes are generally handled by engineers, more particularly in manufacturing of engineering goods. With the ever expanding manufacturing base the need for engineers is going to rise tremendously.

Widening Government Sector

Almost every year, the Government of India carries out an Engineering Services examination to recruit engineers in Railways, Military Engineering Services, Border Roads, Ordnance Factories, Naval Armament Service, Central Water/Power Engineering services, etc. In addition, all branches of armed forces also need engineers. The demand for engineers in the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) is also on the rise. PSUs like Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC), NTPC, NHPC, Rashtriya Chemical and Fertilizers Ltd (RCF), Air India, Indian Airlines, Neyveli Lignite Corporation, etc need to recruit engineers in large numbers every year.

Engineers with management qualifications are hot property these days. Every managerial job where technical input is also required, needs an engineer manager. Ratio of engineers in the All India and Central Civil Services have also been quite high during the recent years. In all these areas, the engineering graduates do not carry out strictly technical jobs but are entrusted with administrative and managerial functions which they can perform more effectively with their technical background.

Combined Engineering Services Examination seeks to recruit engineers from all walks of disciplines to various departments as per their requirement. Upper age

limit is 28 years, which is relaxable to the departmental candidates as well as other categories notified by the Government from time to time. The minimum qualification to take the examination, which is conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), is a degree in Engineering from a recognised university or other educational Institutes established by the acts of Parliament or State Legislatures or institutions deemed as Universities, or equivalent. The examination is conducted in two parts, a written examination and a personality test. On the basis of combined merit, the candidates are selected and allocated services on the basis of merit acquired and option exercised by them.

Admission

Degree in Engineering is offered by several universities, institutes and Regional Engineering Colleges (RECs). Degree offered by the IITs (Indian Institutes of Technology) are treated as the most sought after. In addition, there are several RECs which cater to the regional needs of the students as well as trade and industry. Then, there are several other institutions, colleges and universities which offer degrees in various disciplines of engineering. Some of the Institutes/Colleges are autonomous bodies while others are either run by the private individuals/organisations or by the government.

A combined entrance examination is held for selection of candidates for IITs every year. An advertisement to this effect appears in many national and regional newspapers, and a detailed advertisement also appears in the Employment News. The minimum qualification is that the candidates should have passed 10 + 2 examination with Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics from a recognized university or an equivalent examination. The examination takes place at several centres in the country and is objective type-multiple choice in nature. It is one of the most keenly competed entrance examination and a candidate needs thorough preparations.

Till recently, admission to most of the RECs and other Engineering colleges/Institutes was based on the merit obtained in the 10 + 2 final examination. But due to varying standards of education and marking in most of the Boards of Schools Education or Universities for 10 + 2 examination, increasing number of institutes, are now going in for an entrance examination for admission to engineering courses. Based on the performance of the candidate in the entrance examination, number of vacancies in various disciplines, position acquired by a particular candidate in the merit list and the choice of candidates for the branches of engineering, final selection of the engineering students is made.

How to Prepare?

One of the foremost thing to initiate the process of preparations is to prepare oneself mentally for the entrance examination. Preparations for the objective type multiple choice examination are entirely different than that for a conventional essay type examinations. While several modern syllabi are designed with a view to adopt the modern style of objective type questions and have also switched over to the objective type of questions in 10 + 2 examinations, a large number of Boards of School Educations run by the State governments still have the conventional style. For the candidates coming out of such educational institutions preparation is particularly important. A candidate may be well versed with the entire syllabus and may be capable of acquiring very good marks in a conventional objective type examination, may find it difficult to solve even a simply designed objective type question paper.

Hence, the very first step is to get acquainted with the technique to attempt objective type questions. For most of the students appearing for Engineering entrance examination, the exposure to such examinations are limited and this also increases the need for the practice to master the required technique of doing so

successfully. The initial thrust for preparation should be two-fold—firstly to gain more and more knowledge about the topics concerned so that the candidates are able to reply all possible questions on such topics. Preparing topic-by-topic, the entire syllabus has to be covered. Secondly, more and more practice should be resorted to with a view to master the technique of achieving good results in such type of questions. Aim should be to acquire the art of quickly reading and comprehending the question, scanning the choices rapidly and choosing the right answer without wasting any time. Such a practice, on the one hand improves the capability of the candidates to attempt more questions in lesser time, and on the other increases the knowledge about various aspects of all the topics of the subject.

The candidates should try to get hold of question banks on the subjects, standard books covering the required topics and solved question papers of previous years' entrance examinations, if available. Coaching from a well reputed institution is also recommended, as such institutes have huge question banks on all the subjects. Good institutes also take assistance of computers to store a large number of questions on all the subjects and take a print-out of the required question paper for practice by the candidates. It may, however, be pertinent to mention that it would be wrong to presume that with preparation of just 2 to 3 months one can easily get admitted to an engineering college/institute. Most of the serious candidates prepare for atleast one year to get through in the entrance examination. The preparations should be started immediately after the matriculation examination.

Regular practice, a firm determination to succeed and longer preparation can assist the deserving and potential candidates to be successful at the entrance examination, thereby clearing the toughest hurdle to a glorious career in engineering. A candidate who is able to get admitted to an engineering degree, can look forward to a good career.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

* Read the following passages carefully and answer the questions given below each passage. For each question, four choices have been given. Pick the most appropriate choice or answer.

I

It is clear that the government is trusted as a news source in every country. Its monopolistic news-makers choose their own time to give a piece of news. They will **dress it up** to their advantage. That is why a critical look at official stories is expected of all those who handle them. Not only news-rooms usually **cooperate**; they enable government to suppress inconvenient facts and **orchestrate** the manufacture and spread of more serviceable versions because of patriotism and **ignorance** common to journalists. In the Indian mass media, for example, it is easier to talk repeatedly about the conditions of blacks in South Africa or the United States than to focus searchlights on deprivation and victimisation of the poor and the outcast.

1. How should the news-makers handle official stories?

- (a) critically (b) obediently
- (c) truly (d) blindly

2. How do people react to the news put up by the government?

- (a) they treat it as biased
- (b) they trust it as factual
- (c) they enjoy it as interesting
- (d) they ignore it as false

3. What are main traits of journalists?

- (a) patriotism and service
- (b) ignorance and obedience
- (c) ignorance and patriotism
- (d) patriotism and servitude

4. What is special of Indian mass media?

- (a) it is happy to serve the government of the day
- (b) it is critical about the events in other countries
- (c) it is silent about victimisation and poverty of the people
- (d) none of these

* Choose the word or words that best expresses/express the meaning of the following:

5. **dress it up**
(a) make it fashionable

- (b) make it look better
- (c) present it as readable
- (d) turn it as timely

6. **orchestrate**

- (a) carefully collect
- (b) carefully arrange
- (c) thoughtfully publish
- (d) honestly present

* For the following words, choose the meaning that is opposite to the meaning of the word as used in the paragraph:

7. **Cooperate**

- (a) distance (b) criticise
- (c) offend (d) oppose

8. **ignorance**

- (a) intellect (b) knowledge
- (c) information (d) wisdom

II

Unfortunately, openness and vulnerability are **anathema** to some people. I have worked with at least two men who found my management style upsetting. Both were extremely self-confident, bright and **articulate**, the kind of men who take complete charge of situations and of other human beings. I'm sure it is very uncomfortable (at the unconscious level, perhaps even frightening) for people who like to feel they are in absolute control of their surroundings to see someone like me stand so close to what they must experience as a **precipice** of indignity and lost authority.

9. How was the management of the speaker found by others?

- (a) upward moving
- (b) unusual
- (c) successful
- (d) upsetting

10. The speaker was so close to....

- (a) indignity and lost authority
- (b) exposure to danger
- (c) self-confidence and complete control
- (d) self assertion and mismanagement

11. What was special about two men?

- (a) they knew how to get-over indignity and lost opportunity
- (b) they knew how to deal with situations and human beings
- (c) they were uncomfortable in the company of the speaker
- (d) they were self-centred and

over-confident

12. Some people like to have:

- (a) cooperation and support of others
- (b) exchange of views and experiences
- (c) secrecy and protection in management
- (d) None of these

* For the following words, choose the alternative that best expresses the meaning of each word as used in the paragraph.

13. **anathema**

- (a) offence (b) allergy
- (c) harm (d) hatred

14. **articulate**

- (a) loud (b) clear
- (c) bright (d) intelligible

15. **precipice**

- (a) threat (b) danger
- (c) risk (d) fear

* In the following sentences, there is an error in one part of each sentence. In case you do not find any error in the sentence, the answer is (5).

16. All societies(1) the earliest times since(2) have had one(3) form of religion or another(4). No error(5).

17. I was at the school(1) because a teacher friend asked(2) if I would talk(3) to her class about space(4). No error(5).

18. The fire was detected(1) by one of the(2) faculty member who(3) then sounded the alarm bell(4). No error(5).

19. There was a time(1) when the University took pride(2) in the fact that its(3) examinations were held in time(4). No error(5).

20. The committee is poised(1) to deliver at last long(2) its probe report on(3) the securities scam(4). No error(5).

21. What makes matters worse(1) is that many a time(2) the public address system(3) is not clearly audible(4). No error(5).

22. He wonders how close(1) to death he would have been(2) if he took(3) the first doctor's advice as gospel(4). No error(5).

23. The poor fellow(1) has no clue about how(2) to bringing about(3) an improvement in his fortune(4). No error(5).

24. A several hundred volun-

teers(1) were detained(2) of whom many(3) were remanded to judicial custody(4). No error(5).

25. Recently matters were made worse(1) when most residents received(2) their electricity bills just two days(3) before a stipulated date for payment(4). No error(5).

* Read the following passage carefully and put the most suitable word in the blank spaces.

Large sections of people have come to 26 whether even bloody strife or violent revolution would not be better than the present 27 state of affairs. In this 28, it is good to remember the 29 that minority rights can be 30 only by a willing and enlightened majority elite; 31 the weak, the disabled and the backward can come 32 only with the support of their more fortunate 33; and that if certain rights are overstressed and sought to be taken too 34, the result may be a return to the law of the jungle, of the domination of the strong 35 over the weak.

26. (a) doubt
(b) question
(c) suspect
27. (a) hopeless
(b) helpless
(c) intolerable
28. (a) context
(b) regard
(c) matter
29. (a) challenge
(b) warning
(c) danger
30. (a) protected
(b) ensured
(c) assured
31. (a) however
(b) but
(c) that
32. (a) up
(b) over
(c) upon
33. (a) comrades
(b) brethren
(c) friends
34. (a) further
(b) tight
(c) far
35. (a) few
(b) many
(c) privileged

* In the following questions (36 to 40) the sentences marked a, b, c and d are not in their natural sequence. Read the questions carefully and arrange the sentences in their natural order.

36. (a) I laid out a rug on the bare

mudfloor

- (b) lay down and covered myself
(c) with a blanket before putting out the lamp
(d) with my heart in mouth
(A) dbca (B) dcba
(C) cabd (D) dabc
37. (a) a girl runs through the city lanes
(b) shout at her for coming so late
(c) in the rain without an umbrella
(d) to reach home shivering, and her brother, father and mother
(A) cabd (B) cbad
(C) bdca (D) cadb
38. (a) would set everything right
(b) she had lost only a little of her spirit
(c) a couple of pots of water poured over head
(d) and would go into a trance at times
(A) bdca (B) bcda
(C) adbc (D) bdac
39. (a) he noticed that the people of the slum
(b) when he stepped out of the door
(c) were preparing to take out a procession
(d) who had already read about her death in the Tamil papers
(A) bcda (B) bdac
(C) bade (D) bacd
40. (a) her father had become utterly helpless
(b) and clearly saw that
(c) being a burden on her family
(d) but she was intensely conscious of
(A) dacb (B) dbac
(C) abcd (D) dcba

* In the following sentences, put the most appropriate word in the blank space. For each blank, there are four choices.

41. She already has good academic qualifications ____ her belt.

- (a) within (b) near
(c) around (d) under

42. She walked past us with her ____ in the air.

- (a) attention (b) forehead
(c) face (d) nose

43. I was amazed at the ____ of his knowledge.

- (a) depth (b) extent
(c) range (d) variety

44. I have made a habit of ____ lending money to strangers.

- (a) never (b) always
(c) seldom (d) readily

45. Passers-by just looked ____ as a man was viciously attacked.

- (a) away (b) by
(c) on (d) down

* Choose the most suitable meaning for the word or phrase underlined in each sentence given below:

46. I don't think he has yet found his niche in life.

- (a) partner (b) place
(c) status (d) occupation

47. Your comments are rather remote from the subject we are discussing.

- (a) not connected
(b) not interesting
(c) not convincing
(d) not factual

48. A certain amount of needle has crept into the game.

- (a) competition (b) hostility
(c) rivalry (d) jealousy

49. The government is running up against considerable opposition to its privatisation plans.

- (a) encounter scepticism
(b) face violence
(c) meet difficulty
(d) tolerate criticism

50. He turned his back on his friends when he became famous

- (a) insulted
(b) forgot
(c) helped
(d) avoided

ANSWERS

- | | | |
|---------|---|---------|
| 1 (a) | 2. (b) | 3 (c) |
| 4. (c) | 5. (b) | 6. (b) |
| 7. (d) | 8. (b) | 9 (d) |
| 10 (a) | 11. (b) | 12. (c) |
| 13 (d) | 14. (d) | 15. (a) |
| 16 (2) | 'since the earliest times'. | |
| 17. (2) | 'because a teacher friend had asked' | |
| 18 (3) | 'faculty members who'. | |
| 19. (4) | '... on time'. | |
| 20 (2) | 'to deliver at long last'. | |
| 21. (5) | 'No error' | |
| 22. (3) | 'if he had taken'. | |
| 23. (3) | 'to bring about'. | |
| 24. (1) | 'several hundred volunteers'. | |
| 25. (1) | 'before the stipulated date for payment'. | |
| 26. (b) | 27. (c) | 28. (a) |
| 29. (b) | 30 (a) | 31. (c) |
| 32. (a) | 33. (b) | 34. (c) |
| 35. (a) | 36. D | 37. D |
| 38. A | 39. C | 40 D |
| 41. (d) | 42. (d) | 43. (b) |
| 44. (a) | 45. (c) | 46. (d) |
| 47. (a) | 48. (b) | 49. (c) |
| 50. (d) | | |

TEST OF REASONING—1

Find out the missing numbers:

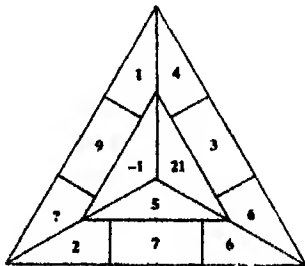
1. 119; 59; 29; ...; 6.5
(a) 16 (b) 15 (c) 13.5
(d) 14 (e) None of these
2. 21; 24; 30; ...; 66
(a) 42 (b) 39 (c) 45
(d) 60 (e) None of these
3. 1; 0; 2; 7; 3; ...; 4; 63
(a) 11 (b) 21 (c) 26
(d) 33 (e) None of these
4. 3; 7; ...; 31; 63
(a) 16 (b) 18 (c) 15
(d) 19 (e) None of these
5. 4; 5; 8; 10; 12; ...
(a) 15 (b) 14 (c) 16
(d) 17 (e) None of these
6. 6; 42; 7; 21; 3; ...; 5
(a) 8 (b) 10 (c) 30
(d) 15 (e) None of these
7. 14; 8; 21; ...; 28; 24
(a) 24 (b) 16 (c) 15
(d) 17 (e) None of these
8. 101; 100; 96; ...; 71
(a) 90 (b) 87 (c) 89
(d) 85 (e) None of these

In questions 9 to 12, four numbers are similar in a way while one is different. Your task is to find this odd-man out:

9. (a) 15 (b) 30 (c) 40
(d) 45 (e) 60
 10. (a) 81 (b) 49 (c) 1
(d) 9 (e) 24
 11. (a) 125 (b) 216 (c) 27
(d) 121 (e) 1
 12. (a) 63 (b) 53 (c) 83
(d) 23 (e) 43
13. How many prime numbers are there from 1 to 100?
(a) 28 (b) 26 (c) 31 (d) 23
(e) None of these

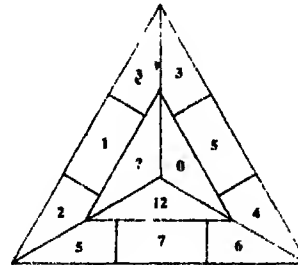
Qs. 14 and 15. Find out the missing numbers:

14.



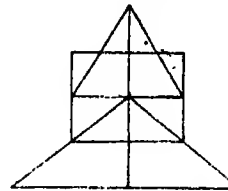
- (a) 7 (b) 8 (c) 3
(d) 6 (e) None of these

15.



- (a) 16 (b) 19 (c) 12
(d) 5 (e) None of these

16. Count the number of triangles in the figure given below:



- (a) 17 (b) 13 (c) 14
(d) 15 (e) None of these

Find the odd-man out:

17. (a) DBF (b) HFK (c) NLP
(d) XVZ (e) USW
18. (a) YXVS (b) QPNK (c) HGEB
(d) RQNK (e) MLJG
19. (a) KHJG (b) PMOL (c) SPRN
(d) QNPM (e) BYAX
20. (a) GT (b) AZ (c) JP
(d) LO (e) EV
21. (a) ZYAB (b) TSGH (c) ONLM
(d) UTFG (e) QPKL

22. In the alphabetical order (A to Z), which letter is exactly in the middle of seventh letter to the right of 14th letter from the left and 12th letter from the right?

- (a) R (b) Q (c) I
(d) P (e) None of these

Questions 23 to 25 are based on the letters in the word 'IMAGINATION'.

23. Which popular word can be formed with 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 11th letters of the word?

24. How many vowels and consonants occur in the word?

- (a) 2 vowels, 3 consonants (b) 2 vowels, 4 consonants
(c) 3 vowels, 3 consonants (d) 3 vowels, 4 consonants
(e) None of these

25. If the order of the letters in the word was reversed, which letter would be to the right of seventh letter from the right?

- (a) G (b) I (c) N (d) A (e) T

NON-VERBAL SERIES

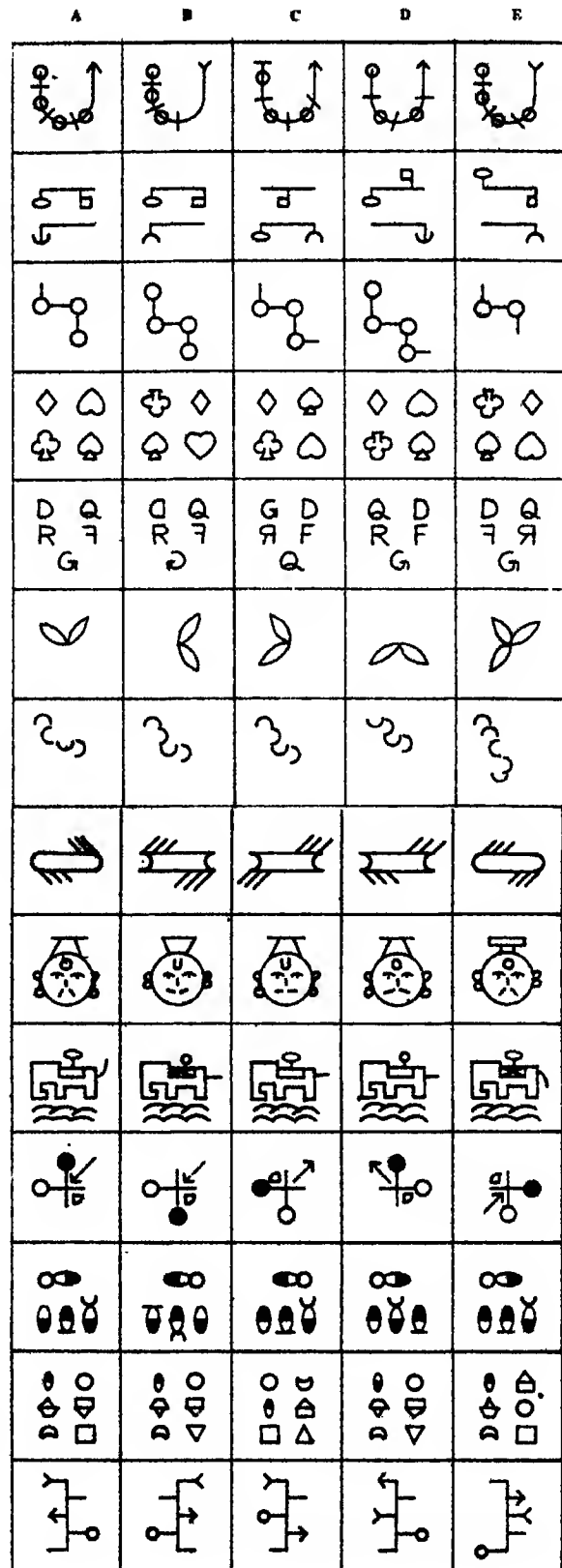
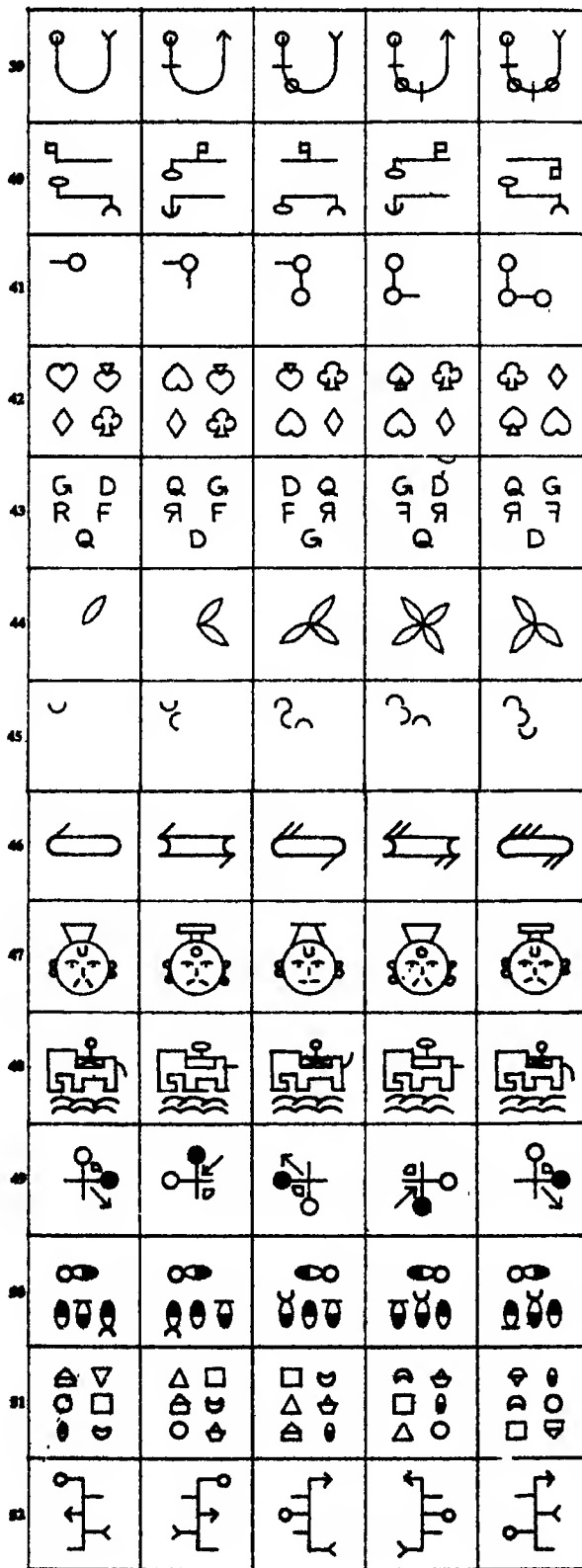
Given below are two sets of figures, the Problem Figures and the Answer Figures marked A, B, C, D and E. Your task is to find out which figure from the Answer Figures should be the next one in the series of the Problem Figures.

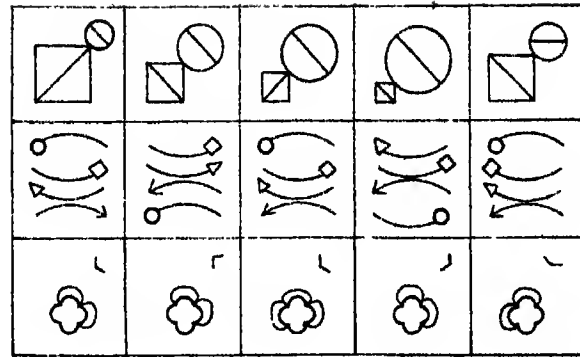
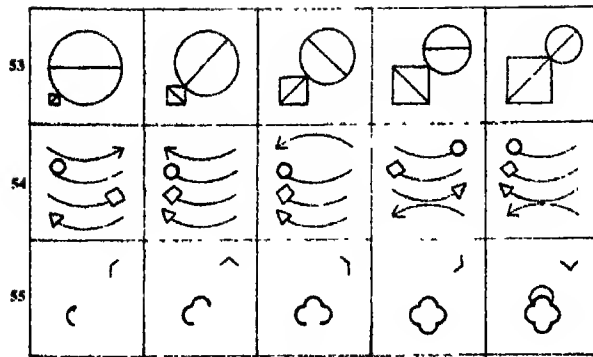
PROBLEM FIGURES

ANSWER FIGURES

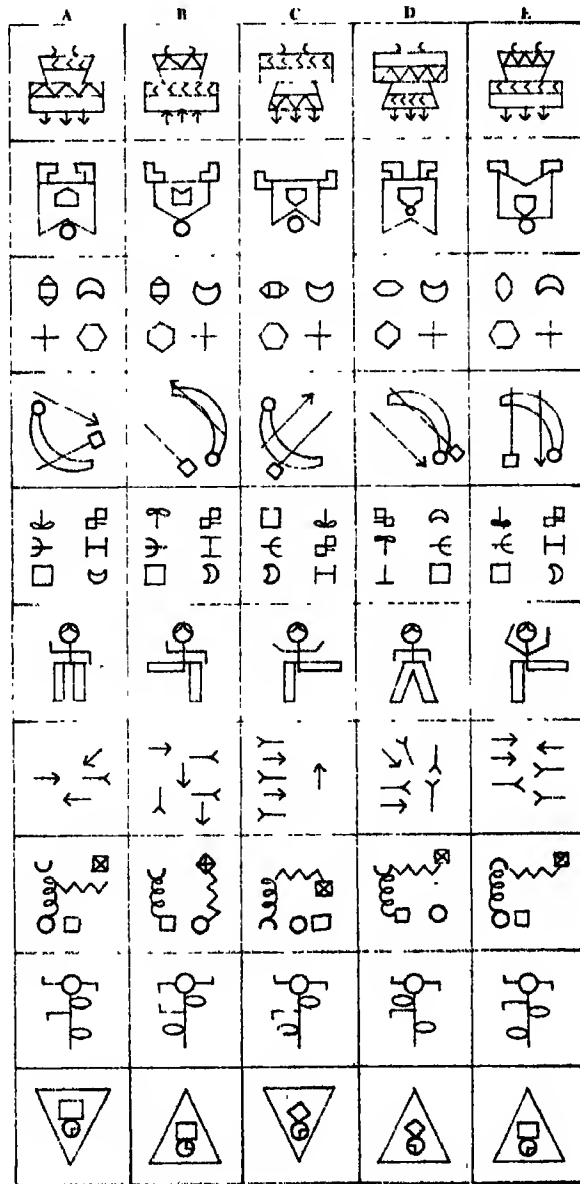
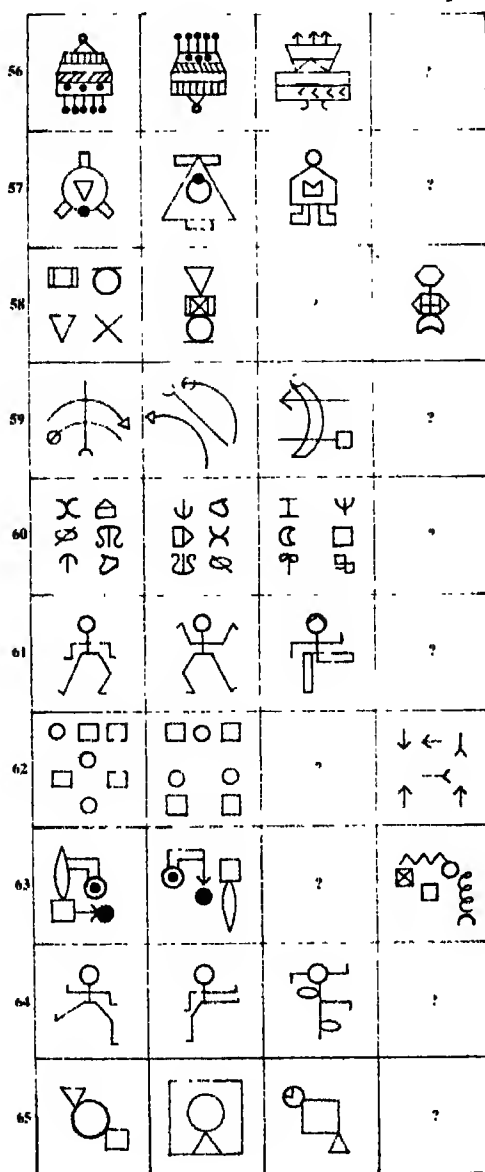
26					
27					
28					
29					
30					
31					
32					
33					
34					
35					
36					
37					
38					

A	B	C	D	E

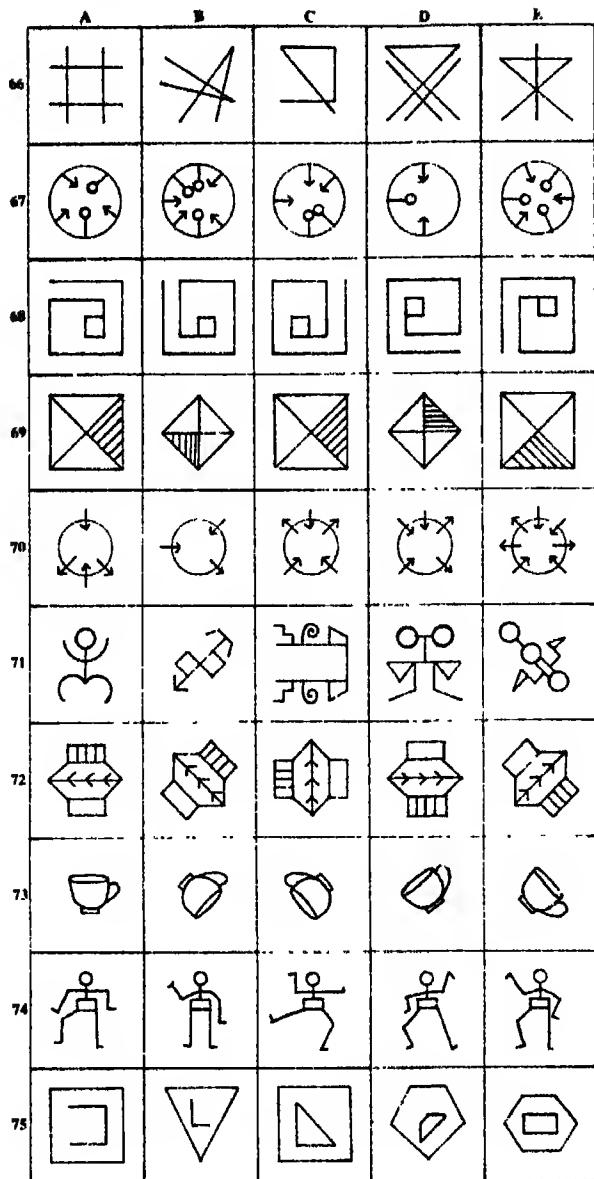




In each of the following questions, the first two figures have a definite relationship. Your task is to find out the figure from A, B, C, D and E to complete the identical relationship for the second set.



Find the odd-man out:



ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (d) Go on deducting 60, 30, 15, 7.5 ... from numbers.
2. (a) Go on adding 3, 6, 12, 24 ... to numbers.
3. (c) Make sets of two; the series is 1; $1^3 - 1$; 2; $2^3 - 1$; 3; $3^3 - 1$...
4. (c) Each number is double plus one of the preceding number.
5. (a) There are two series, 4, 8, 12 ... and 5, 10, 15 ...
6. (d) Each alternate number is the product of numbers on its right and left.
7. (b) There are two series, 14, 21, 28 ... and 8, 16, 24 ...
8. (b) Go on deducting 1^2 ; 2^2 ; 3^2 ... from numbers by turns.

9. (c) All the others are divisible by 3.
10. (e) All the others are squares of certain numbers.
11. (d) All the others are cubes of certain numbers.
12. (a) All the others are prime numbers, this one is divisible by 3, 7, 9 and 21.
13. (b)
14. (b) $(1 \times 8) - 9 = -1$; $(4 \times 6) - 3 = 21$; $(2 \times 6) - 7 = 5$.
15. (c) $3^2 + 2^2 - 1^2 = 12$; $3^2 + 4^2 - 5^2 = 0$; $5^2 + 6^2 - 7^2 = 12$
16. (d) 17. (b) 18. (d) 19. (c) 20. (c)
21. (e) 22. (a)
23. MAINTAIN 24. (d) AIO; MGNT
25. (c)

For answering questions 26 to 55, keep the following points in view:

- (i) Each figure of the question ought to be studied individually as well as in relationship with other figures.
- (ii) If the figure has a movement, study the movement very carefully. The figure may rotate, topple, bend or turn upside down during the movement. It may change its size also.
- (iii) The pace at which a figure moves is very important. The figure may proceed clockwise, anti-clockwise, right/left, up/down, from one corner to the other along diagonal or along certain points. Some times small figures go round the central figure.
- (iv) Figures often interchange places. One set may interchange places in a different direction.
- (v) Some figures may disappear during the movement, may reappear after a gap or may be replaced by new figures.

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 26. C | 27. E | 28. E | 29. A | 30. B |
| 31. A | 32. D | 33. D | 34. B | 35. A |
| 36. C | 37. C | 38. B | 39. D | 40. A |
| 41. E | 42. E | 43. A | 44. C | 45. B |
| 46. B | 47. D | 48. C | 49. A | 50. E |
| 51. B | 52. D | 53. B | 54. E | 55. A |
| 56. A | 57. C | 58. C | 59. D | 60. E |
| 61. B | 62. D | 63. A | 64. C | 65. E |

66. D. All the other figures have four lines only.
67. E. In all the others, one arrow is more than knobs.
68. B. The direction of the figure is wrong.
69. D. The lines in the pattern are in wrong direction.
70. A. The number of arrows pointing towards centre ought to be one more than the other ones.
71. B. All the other figures have at least one circular shape.
72. C. The pattern in the middle is wrong.
73. B. The handle of the cup is in the opposite direction.
74. C. Left arm and right leg ought to have alike position.
75. E. In all the others, the inner figure has one line less.

TEST OF REASONING—II

Find the odd-man out:

1. (a) bang (b) hiss (c) whistle
(d) wink (e) jingle
2. (a) Churchill (b) John Kennedy
(c) Morarji Desai
(d) John Major (c) Lal Bahadur Shastri
3. (a) sparrow (b) parrot (c) cuckoo
(d) crow (e) duck
4. (a) tabla (b) sarangi (c) mridanga
(d) drum (e) dholak
5. (a) gold (b) silver (c) bronze
(d) iron (e) zinc
6. (a) sympathy (b) hatred (c) help
(d) adoration (e) allergy
7. (a) crab (b) scorpion (c) twins
(d) crocodile (e) python
8. (a) unicorn (b) rhino (c) fox
(d) antelope (e) jackal

Items in questions 9 to 16 have a definite relationship. Your task is to find out from (a), (b), (c) and (d) the pair of items with identical relationship.

9. missile : Prithvi.
(a) Trishna : rocket (b) dam : Rana Pratap Sagar
(c) malaria : mosquito (d) ornament : diamond
10. hockey : foot-ball.
(a) chemistry : physics (b) bud : flower
(c) art : drawing (d) chess : bishop
11. trunk : tree.
(a) purse : money (b) pocket : shirt
(c) leaves : flower (d) patriotism : country
12. resentment : liking.
(a) comfort : relaxation (b) strike : hit
(c) roast : fry (d) sooth : torment
13. war : quarrel.
(a) rupee : paisa (b) debt : borrow
(c) local : national (d) dark : blurred
14. failure : disappointment.
(a) pain : agony (b) anger : destruction
(c) eclipse : shadow (d) treachery : punishment
15. trees : environment.
(a) reasoning : mind (b) money : purchase
(c) trains : travelling (d) music : ear
16. spade : dig.
(a) shoe : foot (b) balloon : air
(c) home : live in (d) cream : face

Match questions 17 to 22 with (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) on the basis of identical relationship among the three items given.

17. Kohinoor : stone : diamond.
(a) sword : gun : defence
18. injection : syrup : ailment.
(b) cotton : silk : nylon
19. coat : muffler : sweater.
(c) garden : park : flowers
20. treatment : specialist : quack

(d) city : Taj Mahal : Agra

21. palace : hut : people.

(e) authentic : fake : reports

22. apple : orange : mango.

(f) umbrella : rain-coat : hat

Words in questions 23 to 27 follow a common code; each small letter represents one capital letter from the word. Your task is to find out the right code for letters enclosed in box.

23. P A Y M L N [T]

(i) c (ii) l (iii) z (iv) v (v) b

(vi) u (vii) x

24. I N [S] T E A D

(i) v (ii) w (iii) k (iv) j (v) c

(vi) x (vii) b

25. P R I [N] I E D

(i) k (ii) y (iii) u (iv) b (v) j

(vi) v (vii) x

26. N A [U] G H T Y

(i) l (ii) b (iii) v (iv) o (v) q

(vi) f (vii) c

27. H I [G] H E S T

(i) f (ii) q (iii) x (iv) b (v) w

(vi) k (vii) q

28. If PUNISHMENT is coded as QTOHTGNDOS, the word REWARD would be coded as:

- (a) SDVZSC (b) SDXVSC (c) SDXZSE
(d) SDXZSC (e) SDXZQC

29. If 'big clearance sale' is 'pid mid nid',

'clearance of stock' is 'nid gid sid',

'sale is banned' is 'wid tid mid'

and 'stock is finished' is 'tid fid gid'

then the code for 'big stock' would be:

- (a) gid pid (b) fid mid (c) nid sid
(d) pid tid (e) None of these

Forty pieces of fruits including mangoes, oranges and guavas are picked up by Manju and Neetu as follows:

Manju has three mangoes less than Neetu.

Neetu has five oranges less than Manju.

Manju has six guavas more than Neetu.

The number of oranges and mangoes is the same while the guavas are one third of the total number of mangoes and oranges.

30. How many mangoes does Neetu have?

- (a) 6 (b) 8 (c) 9
(d) 10 (e) None of these

31. How many guavas does Manju have?

- (a) 4 (b) 5 (c) 7
(d) 9 (e) None of these

32. What is the total number of oranges and guavas picked up by Manju?

- (a) 23 (b) 18 (c) 19
(d) 21 (e) None of these

Saurabh's birthday falls on 22nd January and his sister Surabhi's on 10th June.

33. If in the year 1994, Saurabh's birthday was on Saturday, on which day did Surabhi celebrate her birthday?

- (a) Sunday (b) Monday (c) Friday
(d) Saturday (e) Tuesday

34. Will Saurabh's and Surabhi's birthday ever fall on the same day?

- (a) yes, every year
(b) only at the turn of the century
(c) only during leap years
(d) never (e) None of these

Five friends, Kailash, Ratan, Laxman, Mukesh and Keshav were selected for different services and are posted at Delhi, Calcutta, Hyderabad, Gwalior and Bombay. On the basis of the information provided below, match the persons with the places they live in.

Ratan is not in Hyderabad.

Kailash and Keshav are not in Delhi or Bombay.

Mukesh and Kailash are not posted in Calcutta.

Keshav has nothing to do with Hyderabad or Gwalior.

Ratan and Mukesh stay neither in Bombay nor Gwalior.

35. Kailash (a) Delhi
36. Ratan (b) Calcutta
37. Laxman (c) Hyderabad
38. Mukesh (d) Gwalior
39. Keshav (e) Delhi

40. If B is taller than D but shorter than C and E is taller than C but shorter than A then who would be exactly in the middle if they stood in a line according to their heights?

- (a) A (b) B (c) C (d) D (e) E

In each question below are given two statements followed by four conclusions numbered I, II, III and IV. You have to take the two given statements to be true even if they seem to be at variance from commonly known facts. Read all the conclusions and then decide which of the given conclusions logically follow from the two given statements disregarding commonly known facts.

Statements:

41. 1. All soaps are oils.
2. All oils are bottles.

Conclusions:

- I. Some bottles are soaps.
II. All oils are soaps.
III. All soaps are bottles.
IV. All bottles are oils.
(a) Only I follows. (b) Only II and III follow.
(c) Only I and III follow. (d) Either III or IV follows.
(e) None follows.

Statements:

42. 1. Some glasses are kettles.
2. All kettles are jugs.

Conclusions:

- I. Some jugs are glasses.
II. All jugs are kettles.
III. No jug is a glass.
IV. Some kettles are not glasses.
(a) Only I follows.
(b) Only II follows.
(c) Only III follows.
(d) Either II or IV follows.
(e) Only IV follows.

Statements:

43. 1. Some dogs are cats.
2. Some tigers are cats.

Conclusions:

- I. Every cat is either a dog or a tiger.

- II. Some dogs are tigers.
III. No tiger is a dog.
IV. Some cats are dogs as well as tigers.
(a) Only I follows.
(b) Only II follows.
(c) Only I and III follow.
(d) Only IV follows.
(e) Either II or III follows.

Statements:

44. 1. Some patients are doctors.
2. Some doctors are hakims.

Conclusions:

- I. Some hakims are patients.
II. Some doctors are not patients.
III. Some hakims are not doctors.
IV. All patients are hakims.
(a) Only I follows.
(b) Only II follows.
(c) Only III follows.
(d) Only IV follows.
(e) None follows.

Statements:

45. 1. All teachers are lawyers.
2. Some lawyers are judges.

Conclusions:

- I. All teachers are judges.
II. Some judges are teachers.
III. All judges are not teachers.
IV. No teacher is a judge.
(a) Only I and II follow.
(b) Only III and IV follow.
(c) Either II or IV follows.
(d) Either I or III follows.
(e) None follows.

Statements:

46. 1. All books are magazines.
2. All newspapers are magazines.

Conclusions:

- I. Some magazines are books.
II. Some magazines are newspapers.
III. Every magazine is either book or newspaper.
IV. All magazines are books as well as newspapers.
(a) Only I follows.
(b) Only I and II follow.
(c) Only III follows.
(d) Only IV follows.
(e) All the conclusions follow.

Statements:

47. 1. Some pistols are guns.
2. Some pistols are swords.

Conclusions:

- I. Some guns are swords.
II. No sword is a gun.
III. Every pistol is either gun or sword.
IV. Some pistols are neither gun nor sword.
(a) Only I follows.
(b) Only III and IV follow.
(c) Either II or III follows.
(d) Either I or II follows.
(e) All the conclusions follow.

Statements:

48. 1. Only those engineers are contractors who are neither businessmen nor professors.
2. All the contractors are farmers.

Conclusions:

- I. Some farmers are engineers.
 - II. Some farmers are contractors.
 - III. Some engineers are businessmen.
 - IV. All the engineers are not professors.
- (a) Only I and II follow.
(b) Only II and III follow.
(c) Only III and IV follow.
(d) None follows.
(e) All the conclusions follow.

In each question given below is a statement followed by three assumptions numbered I, II and III. An assumption is something supposed or taken for granted. You have to consider the statement and the assumptions and then decide which of the assumptions is implicit in the statement. Then decide which of the answers is correct.

Statement:

49. When all the other modes of protest fail to attract the attention of the authorities to their demands, the employees threaten to go on hunger strike.

Assumptions:

- I. The demands of the employees are reasonable.
 - II. No hunger strike has ever failed.
 - III. On human grounds, nothing attracts more sympathy and immediate action than a hunger strike.
- (a) Only I is implicit.
(b) Only II is implicit.
(c) Only III is implicit.
(d) Only II and III are implicit.
(e) None is implicit.

Statement:

50. Although the policemen risk their lives in getting some of the hard-core criminals behind bars, the court allows them to go scot-free due to lack of evidence or some other legal twists.

Assumptions:

- I. These criminals laugh up their sleeves at the efforts of the policemen.
 - II. People don't give evidence against hard-core criminals easily.
 - III. The action of law is always a disappointment and means of frustration for the police department.
- (a) Only III is implicit.
(b) Only I and II are implicit.
(c) Only II and III are implicit.
(d) Only I and III are implicit.
(e) All are implicit.

Statement:

51. The circus world is finding it difficult to make the two ends meet.

Assumptions:

- I. Running a circus is an extremely expensive affair.
 - II. With so many other means of entertainment, specially the T.V. multichannel system, people are not as eager to go to a circus as they used to be.
 - III. The prices are rising very high.
- (a) Only I and II are implicit.
(b) Only III is implicit.
(c) Only II is implicit.
(d) Only II and III are implicit.
(e) Only I and III are implicit.

Statement:

52. According to the studies made by a team of doctors,

the amount of pollution inhaled by city dwellers is like smoking 20 cigarettes a day.

Assumptions:

- I. Urban population is more vulnerable to diseases caused by pollution than the rural dwellers.
 - II. In cities there is no need to smoke cigarettes.
 - III. The smoke emitted by factories or traffic and the cigarettes has almost the same contents.
- (a) Only I and III is implicit.
(b) Only II is implicit.
(c) Only III is implicit.
(d) None is implicit.
(e) All are implicit.

Statement:

53. One of the institutions in the country teaches men and women, the art of personality development.

- I. Personality is a God-given thing and cannot be altered hence the institution is good for nothing.
 - II. With proper guidelines, a person can develop more confidence and learn the right way to carry himself.
 - III. One cannot develop one's personality by self-efforts.
- (a) Only I is implicit.
(b) Only II is implicit.
(c) Only III is implicit.
(d) Only I and II are implicit.
(e) Only II and III are implicit.

Statement:

54. It is not considered decent to overstay as a guest in a house and go on enjoying the hospitality of hosts for too long a period.

Assumptions:

- I. Guests who overstay are always looked upon as tiresome.
 - II. Everyone welcomes a guest.
 - III. Guests do not give anything in return to the host.
- (a) Only I is implicit.
(b) Only II is implicit.
(c) Only III is implicit.
(d) Only I and III are implicit.
(e) All are implicit.

Statement:

55. Passers-by usually avoid helping an accident victim on road.

Assumptions:

- I. People in general lack humanity and sympathy.
 - II. Passers-by have no time to spare as all of them are going somewhere or the other.
 - III. Passers-by are poor people who cannot afford money in taking the accident victim to hospital.
- (a) Only I is implicit.
(b) Only II is implicit.
(c) Only III is implicit.
(d) Only I and III are implicit.
(e) None is implicit.

Statement:

56. An apple a day keeps the doctor away.

Assumptions:

- I. One apple per day helps in keeping a person fit and healthy.
- II. Those who don't take apples are always unhealthy.
- III. One should not take more than one apple per

day otherwise it may do more harm than good.

- (a) Only I is implicit.
- (b) Only II is implicit.
- (c) Only III is implicit.
- (d) Either I or III is implicit.
- (e) None is implicit.

In each question below is given a statement followed by three courses of actions numbered I, II and III. A course of action is a step or administrative decision to be taken for improvement, follow-up or further action in regard to the problem, policy etc. on the basis of the information given in the statement. You have to assume everything in the statement to be true, then decide which of the three suggested courses of action logically follow for pursuing.

Statement:

57. In a certain private school, the class-rooms are so over-crowded with students that the students at the back hardly grasp what the teacher is saying.

Courses of action:

- I. Number of sections should be increased.
 - II. If the number of rooms is limited, the school should be run in two shifts.
 - III. So many students should not be admitted in school.
- (a) Only I follows.
 - (b) Only I and II follow.
 - (c) All are right.
 - (d) Only III follows.
 - (e) Only II and III follow.

Statement:

58. Fluctuations in the international currency rates often cause economic disturbance for developing countries.

Courses of action:

- I. The World Trade Organisation should be asked to ensure reasonable stability to exchange and rates of interest.
 - II. Developing nations should become self-sufficient.
 - III. The Finance Minister should frame such a trade policy that the country may not be affected by international fluctuations in currency.
- (a) Only I and II follow.
 - (b) Only II follows.
 - (c) Only I follows.
 - (d) Either I or II follows.
 - (e) None follows.

Statement:

59. One of the films is not doing well at the box-office.

Courses of action:

- I. A publicity campaign should be launched through all the medias.
 - II. Good points of the film should be high-lighted.
 - III. The rates of tickets should be lowered.
- (a) Only I is followed.
 - (b) Only II is followed.
 - (c) Only III followed.
 - (d) Only I and II follow.
 - (e) Only I and III follow.

Statement:

60. Most of the pavements are crowded with display of various articles by hawkers selling 'seconds' on cheap rates and thus blocking traffic.

Courses of action:

- I. People who offer to buy such articles should be prosecuted.
- II. The local authorities should try to provide a

market for these hawkers so that they too can earn their bread without interfering with local rules.

III. These hawkers should be heavily penalized and their articles should be seized.

- (a) Only I is right.
- (b) Only II is right.
- (c) Only II and III are right.
- (d) None is right.
- (e) All are right.

Statement:

61. A cyclone is expected to hit a particular spot on the western coast.

Courses of action:

- I. All the fishermen along that area of the coast should be warned and not allowed to go for fishing.
 - II. A team of doctors should be kept ready for help in case there are any victims.
 - III. The villages that are too near the sea should be evacuated.
- (a) Only I follows.
 - (b) Only II follows.
 - (c) Only III follows.
 - (d) Only I and II follow.
 - (e) All are right.

Statement:

62. The government wants an exploration of folk art and craft.

Courses of action:

- I. The government should provide facilities to lovers of art who are prepared to explore the old forgotten folk art.
 - II. An exhibition of folk art and crafts should be arranged where the folk artists can display their work.
 - III. Financial support should be given to these artists and craftsmen.
- (a) Only I follows.
 - (b) Only II follows.
 - (c) Only III follows.
 - (d) All are right.
 - (e) None is right.

Statement:

63. The slaughter of tigers for their beautiful skin and using each part of their body for some oriental Chinese medicine or the other is a source of worry to the WWF people.

Courses of action:

- I. Wildlife departments should be provided with more armed staff to protect the reserved areas.
 - II. Poachers should be heavily punished.
 - III. All tigers should be kept in cages.
- (a) Only I follows.
 - (b) Either II or III follows.
 - (c) Only II follows.
 - (d) None follows.
 - (e) Only I and II follow.

Statement:

64. Teen-agers are getting involved in all sorts of crimes.

Courses of action:

- I. Parents should be asked to keep a close watch over their teen-age children.
- II. School and college authorities should take these young persons in confidence and guide them properly.

III. Juvenile homes should try to reform those who are indulged in crime.

- (a) Only I follows.
(b) Only II follows.
(c) All the three follow.
(d) None follows.
(e) Either II or III follows.

Below is given a passage followed by several possible inferences which can be drawn from the facts stated in the passage. You have to examine each inference separately in the context of the passage and decide upon the degree of truth or falsity in it. Mark your answers:

- (a) if the inference is definitely true.
(b) if the inference is probably true.
(c) if doubtful as the data is inadequate.
(d) if probably false.
(e) if definitely false.

India has taken a conscious decision to get more deeply involved in the economic, agricultural and technological development of Africa. Our liberalised economic policy has opened rich potentials in this regard. It is significant that African countries, which had been trying to follow the western model so far without much success are now looking towards India to get appropriate technologies for their developmental schemes, as these technologies are much more relevant to them than what they are getting from the western countries. The government has urged the Indian private sector to make its presence felt in Africa in a big way and go beyond the stage of supplying buses and agricultural implements only.

65. The western technology is much inferior to the Indian technology.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

66. India has taken this decision without weighing its pros and cons.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

67. African countries are in need of help for their technological development.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

68. No country other than the African countries is seeking India's help in the field of technology.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

69. The western technology has not proved upto the expectation of African nations.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

70. Agricultural implements and buses have been our major export to the African countries.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (d) All the others are associated with sound while this one is a silent action.
2. (b) He is the only President among Prime Ministers.
3. (e) This is the only water-bird in the group.
4. (b) This is the only string instrument in the group of percussion instruments.
5. (c) All the others are original minerals.
6. (c) All the others are natural reactions.
7. (c) All the others are associated with signs of Zodiac.
8. (a) All the others are real animals while this one is legendary.
9. (b) The relationship is that of general category and a specific item belonging to this group.
10. (a) Both belong to the same general group.
11. (b) One of the items is a part of the other.
12. (d) The words have opposite meanings.
13. (d) There is a difference of degrees between the items.

14. (c) They have the cause and effect relationship.

15. (a) One maintains the balance of the other.

16. (c) The relationship is that of the object and its use.

17. (d) 18. (a) 19. (f) 20. (c) 21. (c)

22. (e)

23 to 27. Sort out common letters from the words and match them with common codes, e.g. 'T' occurs in all the words so does the code 'b', hence 'b' is the code for T.

23. (v) 24. (ii) 25. (vi) 26. (iv) 27. (i)

28. (d) Letters 1, 3, 5, 7 ... are coded by the preceding letters in alphabets and the remaining codes are the next letter in the alphabetical order.

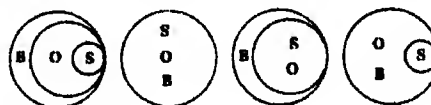
29. (a) 30. (c) 31. (c) 32. (b) 33. (c)

34. (c) 35. (d) 36. (a) 37. (c) 38. (c)

39. (b) 40. (c)

The next type of questions are best solved by drawing diagrams of all the probable situations and then reaching a fool-proof conclusion. Let each item be represented by a circle irrespective of its size. Here are some examples.

41. (c)



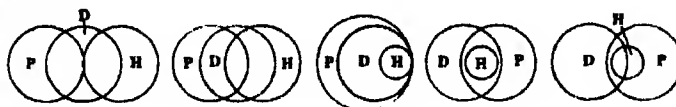
42. (a)



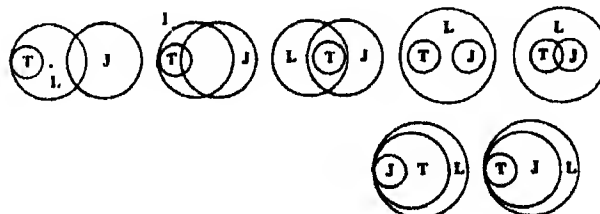
43. (c)



44. (c)



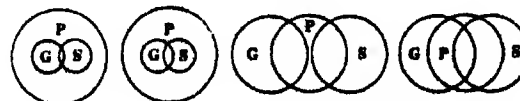
45. (c)



46. (b)



47. (d)



48. (c) 49. (c) 50. (e) 51. (a) 52. (a)

53. (b) 54. (a) 55. (c) 56. (a) 57. (c)

58. (c) 59. (b) 60. (b) 61. (e) 62. (d)

63. (c) 64. (c) 65. (e) 66. (c) 67. (a)

68. (c) 69. (b) 70. (a)

Quantitative Aptitude

The questions given below were set in the Staff Selection Commission Upper Division Clerks' examination held recently.

We are grateful to Mr Pankaj Kumar of Ekarnagar Sarai, District Nalanda (Bihar) for sending these questions to us.

1. A shopkeeper wants to make a profit of 10% after giving a discount of 5% on the M.P. of an article. If the cost price be Rs 95, the marked price is:

- (a) Rs 100 (b) Rs 105 (c) Rs 110 (d) Rs 115

2. If $\frac{x}{y} = \frac{a}{b} = \frac{c}{d} = \frac{2}{3}$ then the value of $\frac{2x + 3a + 5c}{2y + 3b + 5d}$ is:

- (a) $\frac{2}{3}$ (b) $\frac{3}{2}$ (c) $\frac{4}{9}$ (d) $\frac{9}{4}$

3. A sum is to be distributed among A, B, C in the ratio 2 : 3 : 4. If C gives Rs 20 to B and B gives half of money, he has now, to A, then A and C will have the same amount. Find the total sum.

- (a) Rs 540 (b) Rs 480 (c) Rs 450 (d) Rs 400

4. If 3 men or 4 women or 6 children can do a piece of work in 135 days working 8 hours a day, in how many days, working 12 hours a day, can 12 men, 8 women and 18 children together can do the same job?

- (a) 13.5 days (b) 12 days (c) 10 days (d) 8 days

5. Last year the ratio of A and B's income was 3 : 4. But the ratio of their own incomes of last year and this is 1 : 5 and 2 : 3 respectively. If the total sum of their present incomes is Rs 4160, then A's present income is:

- (a) Rs 1040 (b) Rs 1600 (c) Rs 2560 (d) Rs 3120

6. There are 50 machines in a factory. The average of knitting socks of a machine is 500. As 10 machines were sent for repairs, the average was reduced by 50. Find the average knitting of socks of defected machines.

- (a) 430 (b) 500 (c) 700 (d) 730

7. The average age of 26 students of a class is 14 years. On the arrival of a new student, the average was increased by 4 months. Find the age of a new student.

- (a) 23 years (b) 21 years (c) 19 years (d) 18 years

8. Two motorists, 100 km apart, and starting at the same time, would be together in 2 hours if they travelled in the same direction; but would pass each other in 1 hour if they travelled in opposite direction towards each other. The ratio of the speed of the faster motorist to that of the slower is:

- (a) 2 : 1 (b) 3 : 1 (c) 3 : 2 (d) 4 : 3

9. A train covers a distance between stations A and

B in 45 minutes. If the speed is reduced by 5 km/hour, it will cover the same distance in 48 minutes. What is the distance between stations A and B in km?

- (a) 60 (b) 64 (c) 80 (d) 55

10. A cyclist travelled every hour one km more than he had intended to travel in $1\frac{1}{4}$ hr. As a result he covered a distance of 96 km two hours sooner than he thought. His original speed (in km/hour) was:

- (a) 12 (b) 14 (c) 16 (d) 18

11. Arvind starts at 2 p.m. and walks from P to Q at the rate of 5 km/hour. Gopal starts from P towards Q at 3 p.m. and cycles at the rate of 10 km/hour. When will Gopal overtake Arvind?

- (a) 3.15 p.m. (b) 3.20 p.m. (c) 3.30 p.m. (d) 4.00 p.m.

12. A work can be done in 4 days by a certain number of machines. However, with 4 more of these machines, the work could be done in 2 days. If the machines all work at the same rate, how many days would it take to do the job with 2 machines?

- (a) 6 days (b) 8 days (c) 10 days (d) 12 days

13. Three persons A, B and C finished a piece of work. A worked at it for 5 days, B for 7 days and C for 9 days. Their daily wages were in the ratio 4 : 3 : 2 and total earnings amounted to Rs 1,180. The amount of daily wages of B and C together was:

- (a) Rs 100 (b) Rs 120 (c) Rs 140 (d) Rs 150

14. If I had been twice as good a workman as I am, I would have taken 12 days to finish a work. If my capacity of working becomes $\frac{1}{3}$ of what it is now, the number of days taken by me to finish the piece of work will be:

- (a) 8 days (b) 18 days (c) 52 days (d) 72 days

15. There are two taps A and B in tank. If both the taps are opened, the tank is emptied in 20 minutes. If the tap A is closed and tap B is opened, the tank is emptied in 30 minutes. If the tap B is closed and tap A is opened, the tank will be emptied in:

- (a) 30 minutes (b) 40 minutes (c) 50 minutes (d) 60 minutes

16. The ratio of the area of a square of side a and equilateral triangle of also side a is:

- (a) $4 : \sqrt{3}$ (b) $2 : \sqrt{3}$ (c) $3 : \sqrt{3}$ (d) $1 : \sqrt{3}$

17. A rectangle is 15 cm long and has an area of 150

cm². Its area is increased to $1\frac{1}{3}$ times the original area by increasing only its length. What is the new perimeter of the rectangle?

- (a) 50 cm (b) 60 cm (c) 70 cm (d) 80 cm

18. A wire in the form of a circle of radius 84 cm is cut and bent in the form of a square. If π is taken as $\frac{22}{7}$, the side of the square (in cm) is:

- (a) 44 (b) 88 (c) 132 (d) 136

19. If a right circular cylinder just encloses a sphere, then the ratio of their surface areas is:

- (a) 1 : 4 (b) 1 : 1 (c) 3 : 4 (d) 4 : 3

20. Two cubes have volumes in the ratio 1 : 27. The ratio of their surface areas is :

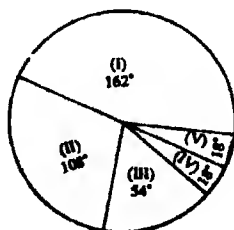
- (a) 1 : 7 (b) 1 : 3 (c) 1 : 9 (d) 2 : 9

21. If a conical cavity of same height and same base be carved out of a cylindrical wooden block of height 12 cm and radius of base 5 cm, then the volume of the remaining wood in c.c. is:

- (a) 100π (b) 200π (c) 300π (d) 400π

For Questions 22 to 26.

The total population of a city is 5000. The various sections are indicated below in the circle diagram.



- (i) : Employees of the Public Sector
(ii) : Employees of the Private Sector
(iii) : Employees of the Corporate Sector
(iv) : Self Employed
(v) : Unemployed

22. What percentage of the employed persons is self employed?

- (a) 5% (b) $5\frac{5}{19}\%$ (c) 19% (d) 20%

23. Number of persons employed in the Corporate Sector is:

- (a) 250 (b) 500 (c) 750 (d) 1500

24. The number of Unemployed persons is:

- (a) 250 (b) 150 (c) 100 (d) 50

25. The number of persons employed in both the Public Sector and Corporate Sector is:

- (a) 3750 (b) 3000 (c) 2500 (d) 2200

26. What percentage of the employed persons is employed in Private Sector?

- (a) $5\frac{5}{19}\%$ (b) $15\frac{15}{95}\%$ (c) $31\frac{11}{19}\%$ (d) $52\frac{12}{19}\%$

For questions 27 to 31

The following table represents the export of wheat and import of sugar in various years. Read the table and answer the questions given below:

Year	Export of wheat (in crores of Rs)	Import of sugar (in crores of Rs)
1979-80	44	58
1981-82	45	50
1983-84	60	54
1985-86	56	60
1987-88	92	68
1989-90	100	78
1991-92	68	60

27. During which period was there maximum fall in export?

- (a) 1985-86 (b) 1987-88 (c) 1989-90 (d) 1991-92

28. The percentage of increase of imports in 1989-90 over 1987-88 is:

- (a) 1.47% (b) 14.7% (c) 17.4% (d) 20.0%

29. In 1981-82, the ratio of export to the import is:

- (a) 9 : 10 (b) 10 : 9 (c) 14 : 15 (d) 15 : 14

30. During which period was there maximum increase in import over its preceding year?

- (a) 1983-84 (b) 1985-86 (c) 1987-88 (d) 1989-90

31. During which period was there minimum increase in import over its preceding year?

- (a) 1985-86 (b) 1987-88
(c) 1989-90 (d) None of these

32. Area of a plot was surveyed as 3.64 acres. A surveyor notes it down in hectares taking 1 acre = 0.4 hectare. If the better value of the acre is 0.40467 hectare, estimate the error (in hectares):

- (a) 0.012 (b) 0.017 (c) 0.15 (d) 0.17

33. Which of the following fractions is the smallest?

$$\frac{3}{4}, \frac{11}{15}, \frac{4}{5}, \frac{7}{9}, \frac{8}{11}$$

- (a) $\frac{4}{5}$ (b) $\frac{8}{11}$ (c) $\frac{11}{15}$ (d) $\frac{7}{9}$

34. $\frac{(.0510)^2 - (.0288)^2}{.0399}$ is equal to:

- (a) .0798 (b) .0222 (c) .0444 (d) .0888

35. On simplification:

$$5\frac{1}{2} - \left[\frac{2}{5} \text{ of } \frac{5}{6} + (7 + 1\frac{3}{4}) \right]$$

gives the result:

- (a) $\frac{107}{30}$ (b) $4\frac{1}{2}$ (c) 3 (d) $1\frac{1}{6}$

36. The simplified value of:

$$[\sqrt[3]{\sqrt{5}}]^6 [\sqrt[3]{\sqrt{5}}]^4$$

is:

- (a) 5^2 (b) 5^4 (c) 5^8 (d) 5^{16}

37. The greatest and the smallest numbers formed by digits, 0, 1, 2, 3 using all the digits once, differ by:

- (a) 1287 (b) 1827 (c) 2187 (d) 2817

38. Take any number and subtract from it the sum of its digits. The number so obtained will always be divisible by:

- (a) 5 (b) 7 (c) 9 (d) 11

39. The smallest natural number, which when added to the difference of the squares of 17 and 13 gives a perfect square, is:

- (a) 1 (b) 5 (c) 11 (d) 24

40. If the numerator of a fraction is multiplied by 3 and the denominator is decreased by 3, then the fraction is $\frac{18}{11}$. But if 8 is added to numerator, and denominator is

made twice, then it is $\frac{2}{5}$. Then the fraction is:

- (a) $\frac{12}{23}$ (b) $\frac{12}{25}$ (c) $\frac{13}{23}$ (d) $\frac{13}{25}$

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (c) Let M.P. = Rs 100 Discount = 5%
 \therefore SP = $100 - 5 = \text{Rs } 95$
 $P = 10\%$ \therefore C.P. = $\frac{95 \times 100}{100 + 10} = \frac{9500}{110}$
 If C.P. is Rs $\frac{9500}{110}$, then M.P. = Rs 100
 If C.P. is Rs 95, M.P. = $100 \times \frac{110}{9500} \times 95 = \text{Rs } 110$
 2. (a) $\frac{x}{y} = \frac{a}{b} = \frac{c}{d} = \frac{2}{3} \therefore x = \frac{2}{3}y, a = \frac{2b}{3}, c = \frac{2}{3}d$
 $\frac{2x + 3a + 5c}{2y + 3b + 5d} = \frac{2(\frac{2}{3}y) + 3(\frac{2b}{3}) + 5(\frac{2}{3}d)}{2y + 3b + 5d} = \frac{2}{3}$
 3. (a) Ratio between shares of A, B and C = 2 : 3 : 4
 Let A's share = Rs 2x, B's share = 3x and
 C's share = 4x
 A.T.S. $2x + \frac{1}{2}(3x + 20) = 4x - 20 \therefore x = 60$
 Total money = $2x + 3x + 4x = 9x = 9 \times 60 = 540$
 4. (c) 3 men's work = 4 women's work = 6 children's work
 \therefore 12 men's work = 24 children's work
 8 women's work = 12 children's work
 (12 men + 8 women + 18 children)'s work
 $= 24 + 12 + 18 = 54$ children's
- | | | | |
|----------|------|------|--|
| Children | Hrs. | Days | |
| 6 | 8 | 135 | |
| 54 | 12 | x | |
- More children less days 54 : 6
 More hrs less days 12 : 8 } $\therefore 135 : x$
- $\therefore x = \frac{135 \times 6 \times 8}{54 \times 12} = 10$ days
5. (b) 6. (c) 7. (a)

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8. (b) Let the speed of faster motorist be x km/hr and that of slower be y km/hr.
A.T.S. $2x - 2y = 100$ or $x - y = 50$
and $x + y = 100$
On solving, we get, $x = 75$, $y = 25$
 $\therefore x/y = \frac{75}{25} = \frac{3}{1}$ or 3 : 1 Ans.
9. (a) Let the required distance be x km $S = \frac{D}{t}$
A.T.S. $\frac{x}{45} - \frac{x}{48} = 5$ $\therefore x = 60$ km
10. (a) Let the usual speed be x km/hr
In $1\frac{1}{4}$ hr, distance covered $= x \times \frac{5}{4} = \frac{5x}{4}$ km
But in 1 hr, he covered distance $= (\frac{5x}{4} + 1)$ km.
 $= (\frac{5x+4}{4})$ km
 \therefore Increased speed $= \frac{5x+4}{4}$ km/hr.
A.T.S. $\frac{96}{x} - 96 \times \frac{4}{5x+4} = 2$ or $5x^2 - 44x - 192 = 0$
On solving $x = 12$ (Rejecting -ve value as speed can't be -ve)
11. (d) Distance covered by Arvind in one hr (i.e. from 2 P.M. to 3 P.M.) = 5 km. Now both start walking at 3 P.M.
Arvind starts walking from R to Q and Gopal starts walking from P to Q. Let they meet after x hours
A.T.S. $10x - 5x = 5$ $\therefore x = 1$
 \therefore They will meet after 1 hour i.e. at 4 P.M.
Or Gopal will overtake Arvind at 4 P.M.
12. (b) Let the no. of machines be x
A.T.S. $x \times 4 = (x + 4) \times 2$ $\therefore x = 4$
If 4 machines can do a work in 4 days then 2 machines will do the work in 8 days
13. (d) Ratio between daily wages of A, B, C = 4 : 3 : 2
Let their wages be $4x$, $3x$, $2x$
 $\therefore 4x \times 5 + 3x \times 7 + 2x \times 9 = 1180$ $\therefore x = 20$
Amount of daily wages of B & C together
 $= 3x + 2x = 5x = 5 \times 20 = \text{Rs } 100$
14. (d) If I had been twice as good a workman as I am, I would have taken 12 days to finish the job. It means, now, I can do the job in $12 \times 2 = 24$ days
If my capacity of doing work $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of what it is now, the no. of days taken by me to finish the job
 $= 24 \times 3 = 72$ days
15. (d) (A and B)'s one minute's work $= \frac{1}{20}$
B's one minute's work $= \frac{1}{30}$
 \therefore A's one minute's work $= \frac{1}{20} - \frac{1}{30} = \frac{1}{60}$
Tap A can empty the tank in 60 minutes
16. (a) Required ratio $= a^2 : \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}a^2 = 4 : \sqrt{3}$

17. (b) Breadth of a rect. $= \frac{150}{15} = 10$ m
Increased area $= 150 \times \frac{4}{3} = 200$ m²
 \therefore Increased length $= \frac{200}{10} = 20$ m
New perimeter $= 2(20 + 10) = 60$ m
18. (c) Circumference of a circle $= 2\pi r = 2 \times \frac{22}{7} \times 84$
 $= 528$ cm
Perimeter of a square $= 528$ cm, $4a = 528$
 $\therefore a = 132$ cm
19. (b) As a right circular cylinder just encloses a sphere
diameter of sphere = diameter of cylinder
= height of cylinder
 $\therefore \frac{S.A. \text{ of cylinder}}{S.A. \text{ of sphere}} = \frac{2\pi rh}{4\pi r^2} = \frac{2\pi r \times 2r}{4\pi r^2} = \frac{1}{1} = 1 : 1$
20. (c) $\frac{V_1}{V_2} = \frac{l_1^3}{l_2^3} = \frac{1}{27}$ $\therefore \frac{l_1}{l_2} = \frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{S_1}{S_2} = \frac{l_1^2}{l_2^2} = (\frac{1}{3})^2$
 $= (\frac{1}{3})^2 = \frac{1}{9} = 1 : 9$
21. (b) Volume of remaining wood
 $= \pi r^2 h - \frac{1}{3} \pi r^2 h = \frac{2}{3} \pi r^2 h = \frac{2}{3} \pi (5)^2 \times 12 = 200\pi$
22. (b) Required %age $= \frac{18}{360 - 18} \times 100 = 5\frac{5}{19}$
23. (c) Required no. of persons $= \frac{108}{360} \times 5000 = 750$
24. (a) No. of unemployed persons $= \frac{18}{360} \times 5000 = 250$
25. (b) No. of persons employed in both the public sector and corporate sector $= \frac{162 + 54}{360} \times 5000 = 3000$
26. (c) %age of the employed persons employed private sector $= \frac{108}{360 - 18} \times 100 = 31\frac{11}{19}$
27. (d) 28. (b) 29. (a) 30. (d) 31. (d)
32. (b) 33. (b) 34. (c) 35. (d)
36. (b) $(5^8 \times \frac{1}{6} \times \frac{1}{4} \times 6) \times 5^9 \times \frac{1}{6} \times \frac{1}{3} \times 4 = 5^2 \times 5^2 = 5^4$
37. (c) Required difference $= 3210 - 1023 = 2187$
38. (c)
39. (a)
40. (b) Let the fraction be $\frac{x}{y}$
A.T.S. $\frac{3x}{y-3} = \frac{18}{11}$ (i)
 $\frac{x+8}{2y} = \frac{2}{5}$ (ii)
Solving (i) and (ii), we get $x = 12$, $y = 25$
 \therefore The required fraction is $\frac{12}{25}$

General Studies Scene

Q. 1. Union Budget 1995-96 is said to have a rural bias. What are its features that make this budget a rural area-oriented budget? Describe briefly.

Ans. Also dubbed as an election year budget, the Union Budget for 1995-96 has considerable emphasis on general development of the rural areas. Materially different from the past three budgets presented during the era of reforms, the Government appears to have recognized the need for development of rural areas, as the development of a country like India cannot be complete unless the rural areas are developed adequately. The following features make it a rural area-oriented budget:

(a) **Emphasis on rural Infra-structure:** The budget realises the inadequacy of public investment in the agricultural infrastructure which is on the decline. This area falls within the responsibility of the States but the State governments have not been able to ensure adequate investment in the field of rural/agricultural infrastructure. There are several projects of infra-structural development which are pending for completion for want of funds. To encourage public and private investment in this field a new Infra-structural Development Fund within the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has been established from April 1995. The Fund is to provide loans to the State Governments and State owned Corporations/Boards for infra-structural projects like medium and minor irrigation scheme, soil conservation, watershed management and other projects in rural infrastructure. A corpus of Rs 2000 crore is expected to be created for the Fund by the Commercial banks, who have been asked to contribute funds equal to their shortfall in achieving the priority sector lending target for agriculture.

(b) **Credit for Small Scale and Cottage Industries:** Several new schemes for providing credit to the rural small scale and cottage industries have been introduced. In one hundred predominantly Tribal districts NABARD has been asked to open an exclusive line of credit for meeting the needs of the Scheduled Tribes. A sum of Rs 400 crore has been earmarked for this purpose. In addition, Rs 100 crore have been earmarked for financing Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries identified by the concerned corporation of the States. Further for strengthening Khadi and Village industrial units, a new scheme has been introduced under which the banking system would provide Rs 1000 crore on a consortium basis to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) which will further carry out the funding. To ensure adequate flow of credit to the handloom sector, refinancing by NABARD which was restricted through District

and State Cooperative Banks, has now been extended through commercial banks also. Steps have also been initiated to strengthen small scale industries which contribute about 35 per cent to India's exports. A Technology Development and Modernization Fund is being established in the Small Industrial Development Bank (SIDBI) to provide financial assistance to quality products to maintain capability of the small scale sector. To start with, the amount earmarked for this purpose is Rs 200 crore. The Commercial banks have also been asked to set up specialized bank branches to serve the needs of small scale sector in 85 identified districts where each has more than 2000 registered small scale units. Moreover, to achieve accelerated industrial development in the North Eastern States, a new North Eastern Development Bank (NEDB) is being established with an initial capital of Rs 500 crore. All these schemes will primarily ensure strengthening of credit facilities in the rural areas.

(c) **Welfare of the Rural Poor:** Several new schemes aimed at the welfare of rural poor have been introduced while several old-ones have been strengthened. As against 4 lakh dwelling unit target for 1994-95 under the Indira Awas Yojana, 10 Lakh such units are proposed to be constructed during the current financial year. A monthly old-age pension @ Rs 75 per month has been introduced for poor with more than 65 years of age. In case of death of a primary bread earner in the families living below poverty line, a lump sum survivor benefit of Rs 5000 has been introduced. Another scheme called mid-day meal scheme has been introduced to achieve child nutrition on the one hand and higher attendance on the other. The scheme has already been made operational and is expected to cover the entire country in a phased manner within a period of 3 years.

Hence the above mentioned new initiatives taken in the Union Budget for 1995-96 which include funding of agricultural infrastructure, promoting handlooms, cottage industries and small scale industries, expanding rural housing and introducing social security measures for the poorer sections, adequately reveal a strong rural bias in the budget.

Q. 2. What do you understand by PAS-4? How is it going to affect the "battle for Indian skies"? Which are the other satellites that are likely to affect the introduction of new channels in India?

Ans. PAS-4 stands for PanAm Satellite and was launched in August 1995 from Kourou in French Guiana. Out of its capacity to add 14 new Channels, at least 7 new channels are likely to be introduced into Indian cable network PAS-4 is slotted at 68.5

degrees East. With the launch of PAS-4 the so-called "battle for Indian skies" has intensified enormously. ABC's Entertainment and Sports Programming Network (ESPN), Viacom's M-TV and a Children Channel called Nickelodeon and Sony-Columbia-ACE-TV alliance are some of the new channels which are in the process of being introduced in India. All these new channels will have plethora of English movies, serials, sports and cartoons beaming through cable into Indian homes. There is a likelihood of other channels like Disney Channel, Turner networks, TNT cartoons and MGM classics channels also coming on to the scene, in addition to the international channel of Doordarshan, which has already found its way through PAS-4. It is expected that the number of channels offered by PAS-4 may exceed 20 within a period of one year.

Arch-rival of PAS is INTELSAT which is also likely to strengthen its base in Indian market by introducing new programmes through Discovery, NEPC and Dalal street Journal TV, apart from Shristi and Video crop. Two new satellites are also likely to storm the Indian cable market soon. These are Intersputnik's EXPRESS-6 and ASIANET-2. These satellites would also launch at least two channels each in India which would include Business channels, regional language channels and entertainment channels.

The impending onslaught by these new channels is likely to result in certain problems both for the operators as well as viewers. Most of the TV sets manufactured and sold in India have limited number of channels, say 10 to 16. With the number of players increasing by leaps and bounds, the new channel operators realise that the revenue generated by the advertisements is not likely to sustain them in the long-run and the answer lies in introducing new channels as pay channels. Most of the cable operators and the viewers are not willing to pay anything extra and even the telecasts requiring not so expensive decoders have also not been very successful on Indian Cables. Moreover, to enhance the capacity of TV sets in terms of number of channels, traditional and less channel TV sets need "top boxes" which again cost Rs 2500 each. It is highly unlikely that many viewers would go in for top boxes to enhance the channel receiving capacity of their TV sets to have more than 16 channels and that too by paying through their nose to view the additional channels.

Another area of concern relates to the cultural ethos and social values. The sudden exposure of the developed west, its social system, cultural values and moral ethos to the Indian masses through cable and satellite channels has come as a cultural shock to the largely traditional Indian society. Loose morality, entirely different culture, urbanised life style and altogether varied social values have shaken the life in India. While among the lower classes of the society, the undesirable exposure has resulted in widespread frustration, it has resulted in rapidly increasing consumerism in the urban areas, particularly among the upper and upper middle classes of the society.

Q. 3. What do you understand by "disinvestment of PSU shares"? How much disinvestment has taken place so far? What

is the target for 1995-96? Critically analyse.

Ans. Disinvestment of Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) shares is a means to privatise the equity held by the government in these undertakings. In all the PSUs, the government is the largest share holder with more than 50 per cent shares and in most of the PSUs, government is the only owner and share holders. During the 1990-91 financial crises, a need was felt for partial privatisation of the government share capital from the PSUs in a phased manner. It was, therefore, decided to offer some percentage of PSU equity to the private sector to introduce the elements of accountability, professional management and limited private control. Hence the process of disinvestment was initiated in the year 1992. There have been shortfalls in achievement of targets for disinvestment. For example, during the previous two years, against a total target of Rs 6500 crore, only Rs 4100 crore have been disinvested. Against a target of Rs 2500 crore for disinvestment during 1993-94, the government could raise only Rs 1900 crore. These figures for 1994-95 were Rs 4000 crore and Rs 2200 crore respectively. Adding Rs 3300 crore raised during 1992-93, the total disinvestment during the first 3 years of disinvestment has been around Rs 7400 crore.

For the year 1995-96, a target of Rs 7000 crore has been kept. The first round of disinvestment was opened on October 9, 1995 and closed on October 20, 1995. The notification issued by the Government in the first round of disinvestment during the current financial year has invited bids for the purchase of shares of selected blue chip PSUs including ONGC, and SAIL (Steel Authority of India). The other PSUs whose shares have been offered for sale are MNPL and CCI. The bids for purchase of PSUs were open to firms, companies, individuals, NRIs, overseas corporate bodies and foreign institutional investors. The minimum bid could be for 100 shares or Rs 25,000 whichever was higher and bid can be for one PSU or all of them. The bidders were required to pay 10 per cent of the bid amount as deposit.

The Government has already disinvested part of its equity from 39 selected companies since the process began in 1992. Although the upper ceiling has been fixed at 49 per cent, the achievement levels have been ranging between 48.20 per cent in case of Madras Refineries Limited to just 0.67 per cent in case of MMTC.

Disinvestment of Government equity was a bold policy decision which has largely failed to achieve the original objective. With the percentage of disinvestment being less than 10 per cent in most of the PSUs. The decision to disinvest government equity was mainly guided by the need to reform the ailing PSUs by introducing the elements of private ownership and accountability. Less than 10 per cent disinvestment in most of the PSUs in which disinvestment has taken place, would hardly achieve any of the two broad objectives. Rather than achieving the above mentioned objectives, the process of disinvestment has rather turned into a device to reduce the fiscal and revenue mobilisation effort by the Union Government. Due care, therefore, is required to be taken to ensure that the process of disinvestment does not lose sight of its original objectives.

Question Box

Q. What is the present CRR?

—P.K. Mishra, Bhubaneswar

A. The Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) was 15 per cent prior to November. On November 11, 1995 this was reduced to 14.5 per cent by the RBI to ease the liquidity crisis.

Q. What is the address of International Maritime Institute for joining the merchant navy?

—Shobhan Panda, Sambalpur, Orissa

A. The address is: International Maritime Institute Ltd, Farm No. 5, Sector 111D, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi - 110 070.

Q. I would like to join the London School of Economics. What is their admission procedure and criteria for admission?

—Rajeev Nayan, Patna, Bihar.

A. Please write to London School of Economics, Houghton Street, London WC 2A 2AE, UK for details about their admission procedure and criteria for admission.

Q. Where can I do a course on desk top publishing?

—Arun K. Nahak, Rourkela

A. Please contact a computer institute near your home, as this is a practical course.

Q. What is the difference between Fundamental Rights and Human Rights?

—V. Sarveswara Reddy, Hyderabad

A. Fundamental rights are those rights that are guaranteed by the Constitution of India. Human rights are those contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) such as the need to eliminate want and oppression.

Q. Are there any correspondence course or books for the Indian Forest Service Exams? Please let me know of some books with descriptive answers for GK and

General English.

—Sandhya M. Janu, Coimbatore

A. We are not aware of any correspondence course specifically for the IFS exams. However, there are many books available which will help you. You can look at the books on GK and General English published by Khanna Brothers, Chandigarh which are used by students appearing in civil service exams.

Q. Who was Stephen Spender?

—Ashim Chakraborty, Indore

A. Sir Stephen Harold Spender was British poet, novelist, playwright and critic. The "grand old man of letters" died on July 16, 1995 at the age of 86.

Q. Please let me know how I can be admitted to IIT?

—Dipen Basak, Calcutta

A. To get into IIT, you will have to prepare for the Joint Entrance Examination (IIT-JEE). Several books and courses are available to help you prepare for the examination. However, if you are keen on engineering, you may like to keep your options open by applying to regional engineering colleges also.

Q. What is meant by "Ecomark"?

—Sanjoy Kumar Modak, Purulia (WB)

A. The Ecomark was a scheme mooted by the Ministry of Environment to award a mark to those products which were environment friendly. Environmentally aware people would thus know which products should be bought. The scheme has flopped.

Q. Why is Chandigarh called the 'planned city' of India?

—Santosh K.P., Perumbavoor (Kerala)

A. Cities usually grow from a nucleus in a haphazard way. Chandigarh was planned by French architect Le Corbusier

and hence it is known as the planned city.

Q. Please give me the address of NIFT as I want to do a course of fashion designing from there.

—Sabu George, Trivandrum

A. You can write to NIFT at their campus at Hauz Khas, New Delhi - 110 016. Its entrance test is like management tests and you can refer to our management section for study material.

Q. What percentage of hardwork and intelligence is required for producing a good result?

—Mondar Ghosh, Howrah (WB)

A. There are no studies available on your questions because they are both subjective terms. However, a good result can be got by only a basic intelligence and reasonable hard work. If you are a student, we can advise you to put in your best effort and not to worry about these things.

Q. Which is the longest railway platform of the world?

—Dibyendu Bhattacharya, 24 Parganas (WB)

A. Kharagpur in West Bengal.

Q. I want to become an astrologer. How can I become one?

—Manoj Kumar Mishra, Bainsiria (WB)

A. You can study the Indian system of astrology from a person living close to you. There are a number of books available on Western astrology. However, keep it as a hobby only for no one is known to make accurate predictions.

Q. How does an Electronic Digital Computer work?

—Shilpi Salwan, Hoshiarpur (Punjab)

A. An electronic computer works on a

system in which signals are on or off. These states are denoted by the symbols 1 or 0. A series of 0s and 1s is grouped to form bytes—one byte is the basic unit of memory and represents a letter, number, or program instruction. Instructions to a computer can be made in this 'language' and makes it work.

Q. What is the number of questions in CAT or XLRI exam that one should answer?

—Md Mofiduzzaman, Jamshedpur

A. Most management exams are divided into four sections and have about 180 questions. You should aim for doing the maximum number of questions in the time allotted (2 hours). You should have minimum 20-24 in each section (correct answers minus one fourth of wrong answers) but you must aim for a score which is well above 100.

Q. What are the job prospects after doing Master of Computer Applications (MCA)?

—Akash Sharma, Saharanpur (UP)

A. These days computers are coming in India in a big way. It is estimated that 1,50,000 computers are being installed every year. Computer professionals thus have a very good scope for getting jobs.

Q. Recently I got selected as Bank Probationary officer. Which other course should I do to further my career?

—Sameer, Kanpur

A. You don't need to do any other course at this stage. You can do some courses offered by the National School of Banking or of financial analysis depending on your interest.

Q. How can astronauts talk with one another?

—Balaji Prasad Misra, Jeypore (Orissa)

A. Communication between astronauts is done by means of radio. Inside the space suit is a small transmitter which sends the signals to the spaceship or to another astronaut.

Q. What is the function of a remote control and how does it work?

—S. Bose, Cuttack (Orissa)

A. The remote control is a device to control devices from a distance. A signal is emitted by the remote control which activates a response in the device. Common remote control applications are controlling electronic devices.

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Round-up of National Affairs

1995 IN A NUTSHELL

The year 1995 saw many political alliances and manoeuvrings. The election results showed that no party could bank on vote banks and had to deliver results. No trend was clearly visible and the results could not be explained by any theory. The message to the politicians was clear: provide a clean government or they would be booted out next time.

Important judgements of the Supreme Court related to commercial advertisements being part of Freedom of Speech. It directed the government to submit the complete Vohra Committee report, which had exposed the nexus between criminals and politicians. The Court, however, did a *volte-face* on the uniform civil code and said that its earlier request was not binding on the government. Two senior officials were put in the dock by the court during the year.

The year had its share of disasters. Over 400 people were killed in a train accident in U.P., the worst disaster of the decade. In Bihar, 64 miners were drowned in the Geslitand mine disaster. Human failings were responsible for both the accidents.

The nation faced a serious problem in Kashmir. Even as terrorist activity continued, the Indian government tried once again to hold elections. It was the Election Commission which stopped them this time, saying that the conditions were not suitable for elections.

Scandals surfaced with regularity. Disclosures in the diaries of arrested businessmen in the hawala scandal showed that senior politicians and bureaucrats were involved; there was heightened interest in godman Chandraswami's interrogation by the Jain commission.

The economy started looking down. The rupee went down and there were questions raised about the new economic policies. The BJP promised a change in economic policies if it came to power, while at the same time movement against foreign companies intensified.

off after the drubbing it received in 1989. BJP emerged as the second biggest party with 40 seats, up from four in 1989 elections. Mr Dewe Gowda was elected as the Chief Minister.

In Andhra Pradesh the Congress was completely decimated. Telegu Desam Party (TDP) bagged 219 seats in the 294-member Assembly to secure two-thirds majority. The ruling Congress could manage just 26 seats. Mr N.T. Rama Rao was sworn-in as the Chief Minister for the third time.

In Sikkim too the Congress got a drubbing. Only a few months before the elections it had managed to form a government by engineering defections from Sikkim Sangram Parishad. The surprise winner was the Sikkim Democratic Front (SDF), led by Mr Pawan Kumar Chamling. SDF won 19 of the 32 Assembly seats.

In Goa a hung Assembly was returned. The Congress emerged as the single largest party, capturing 18 of the 40 Assembly seats. A six-member minority government, headed by Mr Pratap Singh Rane, assumed office.

In Maharashtra, the government of Sharad Pawar was booted out and a BJP-Shiv Sena combine took office. Mr Manohar Joshi of Shiv Sena assumed the office of Chief Minister.

In Gujarat BJP came to power for the first time by securing absolute majority completely on its own. Mr Keshubhai Patel took over as the Chief Minister.

In Orissa it was the Congress which won and Mr J.B. Patnaik returned as Chief Minister. The Janata Dal government led by Laloo Prasad Yadav in Bihar was re-elected surprising many and in Arunachal Pradesh the Congress won a landslide victory. Gegong Apang assumed the Chief Minister's office for the fourth consecutive term.

The defeat of Congress was attributed by many on the "anti-people" policy of economic liberalisation being followed by

ELECTION COMMISSION

THE battle for supremacy at the EC ended with the Supreme Court giving its judgement in the petition filed by T.N. Seshan.

On July 14, 1995, it upheld the appointment of the two Election Commissioners with powers equivalent to the Chief Election Commissioner's and dismissed T.N. Seshan's petition against the Centre's controversial ordinance of October 1993 making the Election Commission a multi-member body. It also passed severe strictures on T.N. Seshan, the high constitutional functionary in charge of conducting free and fair elections.

A five-judge Constitution bench

headed by Chief Justice A.M. Ahmadi unanimously rejected Mr Seshan's charge of *mala fide* against the Centre in appointing two election commissioners—G.V.G. Krishnamurthy and M.S. Gill, both former bureaucrats.

ELECTIONS & RESULTS

ELECTIONS were held to elect legislative assemblies in nine States. These were: Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Sikkim, Goa, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Orissa, Bihar and Arunachal Pradesh. The Congress was totally mauled in South and West.

In Karnataka the Janata Dal secured a simple majority by securing 116 of the 244 seats. The party had been almost written-

Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao. But a close analysis revealed that the voter actually voted against corruption and nepotism. Indian voters' apathy was against the corruption brooding in the corridors of power and against cheap populism.

Mr Rao's position as the President of Congress weakened and the infighting ultimately resulted in a split in May, 1995. The Congress split with Arjun Singh and N.D. Tiwari announcing that they were in fact the real Congress party. It was followed by the expulsion of Mr Arjun Singh for six years. Although Mr Rao had lost support from a large number of partymen, the presence of only a few MPs and less than 200 of the AICC members at the May 19 convention of the rebels showed that the dissidents had not made much of a dent, yet.

But there was no way to find a trend in the 28 assembly by-elections held in 14 States in May 1995. If sceptics wanted to write the demise of the Congress, they were wrong. The party could win more than a third of the seats, including the notable victories of Mr A.K. Antony in Kerala and Mr J.B. Patnaik in Orissa. Results were almost predictable in West Bengal where the Left won, in Bihar and Karnataka the Janata Dal, in Andhra the Telegu Desam and the Congress in Himachal Pradesh.

UTTAR PRADESH Political Opportunism

THE Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), the junior partner in the coalition government in Uttar Pradesh, on June 1, 1995, withdrew support to the Mulayam Singh Yadav Ministry and staked its claim to form an "alternative government with the support of opposition parties, including the BJP".

On June 3, UP Governor Motilal Vohra asked Mulayam Singh Yadav to step down and dismissed his government after he refused to oblige. Mayawati, the BSP leader, was then sworn in as the new Chief Minister.

On October 17, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) withdrew support from the minority Bahujan Samaj Party government. The development was an offshoot of a widespread resentment in the BJP's rank and file, against the BSP's stand on Gandhi and Lord Rama.

Following the withdrawal of support, Mayawati resigned as Chief Minister of the State. Governor Moti Lal Vohra initially put the Assembly in suspended animation. However, the Assembly was dissolved on October 27 by the President. The Governor, Mr Motilal Vohra stated that no party was in a position to form a stable government.

Uttarakhand problem: The Uttarakhand agitation took a violent turn when the security forces indulged in violence and rape on the peaceful protestors. Now, the CBI has confirmed that the PAC did indeed rape the hapless victims. Force, however, has never suppressed the feelings of people, and the mood in Uttarakhand remained one of sullen anger.

GUJARAT Political Crisis

IN Gujarat, the BJP had won 121 of the 182 seats, a two-thirds majority. On September 27, 1995, Shankarsinh Vaghela led a revolt of 46 MLAs who declared they had lost faith in the leadership of Chief Minister Keshubhai Patel. The BJP tried to control the damage, but its image of being a disciplined party suffered. At a BJP session in Goa in April 1995, party president L.K. Advani had declared the party's intention of projecting itself as alternative to the Congress. The Gujarat crisis threatened to seriously tarnish its image and thwart attempts to become a national party.

Mr Sureshchand Rupshankar Mehta was unanimously elected leader of the BJP Legislature Party at Gandhinagar on October 21, bringing the month-long crisis in the Gujarat unit of the party to a conclusion. Despite widespread discontent among the party MLAs, over the choice of

Mr Mehta, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee ensured the Legislature meeting was a smooth affair.

TAMIL NADU

Governor versus Chief Minister

ON April 1, 1995, the 45-month-old AIADMK government, headed by Jayalalitha, was placed in a major crisis when the Governor, Dr M. Chenna Reddy, permitted her prosecution on two charges of corruption. The sanction was accorded to the Janata Party leader, Mr Subramaniam Swamy.

The two charges pertain to the controversial import of coal by the State Electricity Board in 1993 and the alleged undervalued purchase of government land by a firm in which Jayalalitha was a partner with her close associate, Mrs Sasikala.

Jayalalitha is the first Chief Minister of the State against whom a Governor had sanctioned prosecution, and probably the second Chief Minister in the country, the other being A.R. Antulay of Maharashtra.

On April 5, Jayalalitha moved the Madras High Court to quash the order of the Governor. But on April 27, a division

PUNJAB

Beant Singh killed in car-bomb explosion

The Punjab Chief Minister, Mr Beant Singh, and at least 15 others were killed in a powerful car-bomb blast in the porch of the Punjab and Haryana Civil Secretariat on August 31, 1995.

The blast occurred the moment the Chief Minister sat in his car after finishing the day's engagements. The bomb was apparently planted in one of the three identical bullet-proof cars used by the Chief Minister.

Mr Harcharan Singh Brar was sworn-in as the interim Chief Minister of Punjab at a simple ceremony the same day.

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

Bench of the Madras High Court dismissed the petition of Ms Jayalalitha as premature and not maintainable.

BIHAR

Jharkand Council Constituted

ON August 6, 1995, the Bihar government constituted the Jharkand Area Autonomous Council (JAAC), comprising of 90 members.

The constitution of the interim council marks the culmination of the six-decade-old Jharkand movement. The council offers the people of Chhotanagpur and Santhal Parganas an opportunity to shape their own future, although it may not measure up to the expectation of a State comprising the contiguous tribal-dominated areas of four States.

Forty one workers of the JMM and 18 others find a place in the council of which Mr Shibu Soren (JMM) is the chairman.

ANDHRA PRADESH

N.T. Rama Rao quits

THE curtain came down on the nine-month-old N.T. Rama Rao regime in Andhra Pradesh with the septugenarian Chief Minister, admitted to a private nursing home after a mild heart attack, submitting his resignation to Governor Krishan Kant on August 31, 1995. The Governor subsequently invited rebel leader N. Chandrababu Naidu to form the new Government, whose 11-member team was sworn-in on September 1, 1995.

MANIPUR

Congress Ministry formed

MR Reishang Keishing was sworn in as 15th Chief Minister of Manipur on February 25, 1995, ending uncertainty that prevailed in the violence-hit State, following an unclear verdict in the assembly polls. The Congress had secured 21 seats in 59-member Vidhan Sabha.

Worst Rail disaster

In the worst train disaster of this decade, over 400 people were killed and an equal number injured when the speeding Delhi-bound Purushottam Express rammed into the stationary Kalindi Express on the outskirts of Firozabad in Uttar Pradesh on August 20, 1995.

A cow got entangled under the engine of Kalindi Express which damaged its breaking system. The superfast Purushottam Express, speeding at over 100 kms per hour, collided because of wrong signalling.

The toll was the highest in the Indian Railways' 142-year history, surpassing the 1981 Bihar accident in which 270 people were killed.

It is also probably India's worst transport disaster, killing more people than the Kanishka tragedy which claimed 329 lives when the Air India Jumbo jet exploded over the Atlantic a decade ago.

Geslitand Mine Disaster

On September 26, 1995, 64 miners drowned in a mine disaster in Dhanbad. The Katri river had broken its embankment and rushed into the Geslitand mines. Chief Minister Laloo Prasad Yadav called it a "cold blooded murder" and for the first time, the police registered a case against the officials of the Bharat Coking Coal Ltd (BCCL).

On July 31, 1995, the Chief Minister Reishang Keishing, proved vote of confidence in the State Assembly by a lone vote.

RESHUFFLING THE UNION CABINET

THE first expansion of the Union Cabinet took place on February 9, 1995. Mr Buta Singh, Mr Madhav Rao Scindia and Mr P. Chidambaram were reinducted along with new entrants: the former minister in the National Front government, Mr Ajit Singh, Mrs Urmila Ben Patel, the widow of former Gujarat Chief Minister, Mr Chimanbhai Patel, and Mr Matang Singh, a member of Rajya Sabha, Mr P.A. Sangma and Mr G. Venkatswamy were elevated to the Cabinet rank.

In another expansion, Mr Rao added three ministers. Mr A. R. Antulay, Jagannath Mishra and K. Karunakaran, all former Chief Ministers, were inducted into the Cabinet in June, 1995.

In still another reshuffle, the Prime Minister, on September 13, 1995, inducted 16 new members taking the strength of the Rao ministry to 70.

JAMMU & KASHMIR

Turmoil continues

THE Kashmir problem never went out of media attention during 1995, because of the activities of terrorists in the State. Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto used every international meeting to raise the issue. The solution seemed nowhere in sight, even though the Indian government pushed for elections in mid-December 1995.

J & K has already made history by completing a record five years under President's rule on July 17, 1995. The current spell expires in January, 1996. President's rule has been extended regularly during the last 5 years and has seen three Governors.

The government was all set to launch the political process in the State when the burning of the Charar-e-Sharief, on May 11, 1995, by Pakistan-backed militants, came as a setback in Kashmir. As the government postponed elections, the clock was put back. The incident showed the lack of any coherent policy of the government of India on the troubled State.

The army came in for criticism for its

handling of the incident. It could neither save the shrine from being burnt down nor could it capture the militant leader Mast Gul, who escaped after burning the shrine.

The government had no option but to extend the President's rule, through a Presidential Ordinance amending the Constitution under Article 370 (1) (d), for another six months, beyond July 18, 1995, to get some time to bring back normalcy.

On July 4, 1995, eight foreigners who were trekking from Pahalgam, were abducted by armed terrorists. Al-Faran, an otherwise unknown militant group, apparently working at the behest of the Pakistan-based Harkatul Ansar, demanded the release of 21 militants—many of whom are from across the border—in exchange for the hostages.

Hans Christian Ostro of Norway, one of the five Western hostages held by Al-Faran militants, was killed on August 31, 1995. In a note found on the body, the kidnappers threatened to kill the remaining four hostages unless their demand for

the release of 15 prisoners was met.

Autonomy package: In a major political move on November 4, 1995, Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao proposed a comprehensive autonomy package for Jammu and Kashmir. He also announced that the Union Cabinet has okayed holding of Assembly polls in mid-December, 1995.

However, the Election Commission held that the atmosphere was not conducive for elections in the State. The government, thus was left with no option but to extend the President's rule.

IMPORTANT SUPREME COURT JUDGEMENTS

THE Supreme Court ordered closure of 30 industrial units in West Bengal in February, 1995, that were seriously polluting the countryside. Even big, multinational companies were found to have ignored environmental norms.

Two judgements indicted the functioning of the police, giving rise to hopes

of a more responsible force. Three IPS officers of Haryana were sentenced to imprisonment for acting illegally on behalf of Chief Minister Bhajan Lal. The second judgement indicted five police officers of the Punjab Police for killing a suspected terrorist couple in Calcutta.

The Supreme Court also gave another landmark judgement limiting Doordarshan's monopoly in telecasting events held on Indian soil. It said that the State-run electronic media had no exclusive rights and ended the government monopoly on air waves.

The Supreme Court also directed the government to enact a uniform Civil code and to have a fresh look at Article 44 of the Constitution. Under this code, uniformity will be achieved in civil matters such as freedom to marry more than once and tax benefits for Hindu Undivided Families. The Court, however, did a *volte-face* and later made it clear that its "request" to the Prime Minister to endeavour to secure for the citizens a Uniform Civil Code was in the nature of an *obiter dicta* and, therefore, not binding on the government.

The Court also ruled that any person found responsible for stalling work on a project for public purpose, through court injunctions, would be liable to pay damages and escalation in the project cost, to the authority concerned, if he loses the case.

The Supreme Court on July 17, 1995 ruled that political parties which are identified with a particular caste, community, religion or language can seek votes to promote their cause without creating hatred against their adversaries.

In another judgement, the Supreme Court ruled that commercial advertisements were part of the freedom of speech and expression under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution.

The Court, however, made it clear that commercial advertisements which were deceptive, unfair, misleading and untruthful could be regulated by the State under Article 19(2) of the Constitution.

On October 13, 1995, the Supreme Court directed the Centre to submit a

OFFICIALS IN TROUBLE

Supreme Court orders trial of KPS Gill

The Supreme Court on October 12, 1995, held Punjab Police Chief KPS Gill *prima facie* blamable for outraging the modesty of a senior IAS officer Rupan Deol Bajaj at a party eight years ago and ordered his trial in accordance with the law.

Holding that a *prima facie* case had been found out against Mr Gill for allegedly slapping Ms Bajaj's on her postelot at a party where "elite" was present, the court set aside the high court's judgement by which a first information report lodged by Ms Bajaj seeking criminal action against Mr Gill under sections 354 and 509 of the Indian Penal Code had been quashed.

The SC ordered Mr Gill's trial to be completed within six months. Gill's discomfiture comes at a time when he is already under pressure for lax security that resulted in the assassination of Chief Minister Beant Singh.

Supreme Court sentences IAS officer to prison term

Close on the heels of the Vasudevan case, the Apex court on October 14, 1995, sentenced a senior Manipur IAS officer, Mr A. Wali Ao, to six months imprisonment after finding him guilty on corruption charges.

The sentence was passed on an appeal by Mr Ao against the Guwahati High Court order, which had also found him guilty on the same charges.

The Supreme Court while announcing the sentence directed Mr Ao to surrender failing which steps would be taken to incarcerate him.

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

authenticated copy of the Vohra Committee Report on criminalisation of politics and inform the court about the action taken on the same.

A three-judge bench issued the directive in a public interest petition after the petitioner's lawyer submitted that the Vohra Committee had unearthed a diabolical nexus between politicians, bureaucrats, media persons, drug peddlers, mafia dons and strategically located individuals.

For two years, until the Naina Sahni murder case, the government had kept silent on the report. Quoting the Central Bureau of Investigation, the report confirms existence of "crime syndicates" which had become a law unto themselves. Even members of the judicial system have not escaped the embrace of the mafia according to the report.

LAWS

TADA Lapses

THE controversial ten-year-old Terrorists and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act lapsed on May 23, 1995. It was decided not to renew the Act in the face of growing criticism within the ruling party as well as in opposition circles.

The Government proposed to replace the Act with a milder version guaranteeing safeguards against its misuse. While the BJP opposed any tinkering with the original Act, at least two Ministers in the Rao Government threatened to quit if TADA was not repealed. Railway Minister C.K. Jaffer Sharief and Tourism and Civil Aviation Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad were vehement in opposing the continuance of TADA because it violated basic rights.

However, even the new Bill—the Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 1995—seeking to delete various provisions of TADA that were allegedly misused, failed to evoke a consensus among various parties.

Ordinance on Patents Act lapses

THE ordinance issued on December 31, 1994, to amend the Indian Patents Act of 1970, lapsed on March 26, 1995, follow-

ing the failure of the government to muster enough support for the Bill in Rajya Sabha. The Bill had earlier been passed by the Lok Sabha.

The Indian government was obliged under Article 70 of the World Trade Organisation agreement to ensure on or before the date of entry in WTO, i.e. January 1, 1995, the Indian Patents Act of 1970 stood amend.

The amendments proposed by the Opposition are aimed at excluding certain areas from the patents regime, such as life forms, naturally occurring substances, genes, components and parts of living organisms. It also wants the bill to exclude any invention relating to diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical methods for treatment of human and animals.

SCANDALS

Sugar Scam: The Gyan Prakash Committee report on Sugar Scam was tabled in the library of the Parliament on December 16, 1994, following intense pressure from the Opposition to make the report

public. The report indicted the State Trading Corporation, along with the then Union Food Minister, Mr Kalpnath Rai, for the sugar crisis in early 1994.

Pressure from the Opposition forced Mr Kalpnath Rai to resign as Union Food Minister. The Civil Supplies Minister, Mr A.K. Antony, about whom a passing reference was made in the report, also resigned.

Bofors: Mr Soren Gindahl, Vice President of the Bofors AB, revealed that the government of India has been supplied with details of the names of the persons involved in the Bofors-kickbacks. He said, the Swedish government had written letters to the Indian government in 1991 and 1992 to settle the issue of alleged kickbacks and lift the ban imposed on the old Bofors company.

Jain Hawala case: Four people, N.K. Jain, S.K. Jain, J.K. Jain and B.R. Jain were arrested by the CBI on April 13, 1995 and booked under Prevention of Corruption Act and Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA).

The case against the Jains was registered by CBI on March 4, and they were

Law & Order situation in 1994-95

According to the Minister of State for Home, Mr P.M. Sayeed, the communal situation in the country, though still volatile, is under control and the volume and level of extremist violence continued to register a decline.

He said that the condition in Punjab continued to improve and in Assam the ULFA menace was largely contained.

The volume of violence arising out of caste tensions remained at about the same level in 1994 as in 1993. Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu continued to be among the most affected States.

No serious law and order problems were reported on the agrarian front. However, there were agitations over issues like restoration of subsidies, reduction in power tariffs, entry of MNCs, etc.

The labour and services front also did not experience any serious incidents. The issue of crime against women and other weaker sections of the society became one of the major areas of attention of the government. More than 70 per cent of crime against Scheduled Castes was committed in the three States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

During 1994-95, major security and law and order challenges emanated due to the externally-guided insurgency in Jammu and Kashmir and the subversive activities of militants of the north-east. Extremist violence in Bihar and Andhra Pradesh was also a matter of concern.

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

charged with paying huge sums to persons in authority. They were also suspected to have got huge payments from the Hawala-racket. The CBI had raided the premises of the Jains. Unaccounted cash and a secret diary which contained names of 115 people, including top politicians, bureaucrats and journalists to whom money was paid by Jains, was recovered during the raids.

Based on the information, raids were conducted and show cause notices were served on 50 public servants on September 25.

BUSINESS CONTROVERSIES

THE year had its share of business controversies too. In each of them, important issues were raised, pertaining to foreign investment, which India is pursuing.

The Maharashtra government on August 3, 1995, decided to scrap the controversial 2,015 MW Enron power project at Dabhol in Ratnagiri district.

The five reasons stated in defence of the cancellation were lack of competitive bidding, undue secrecy during negotiations accompanied by a general lack of

transparency, defiance of environmental protection norms, acceptance of unnecessary expenditure on the project and escalation on the cost of electricity that would be unfavourable to the people of the State.

Subsequently, Chief Minister Manohar Joshi clarified that his government had not banned Enron but will renegotiate the contract. A cabinet committee, comprising the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister Gopinath Munde, would examine the proposals from Enron on the basis of the conditions laid down by the government.

KFC Courts Disaster: The fast-food chain *Kentucky Fried Chicken* (KFC) was ordered to close its first outlet in the country in Bangalore and later in Delhi. The Pepsi Co Restaurants-owned chain was served the closure order by the city corporation for serving chicken with allegedly high levels of monosodium glutamate. However, KFC quickly got a stay order from the Karnataka High Court and continued to stay open for business.

ITC: After a prolonged controversy, things were sorted out between *India Tobacco Company* and its foreign partner, BAT.

Having been absolved of financial irregularities by a special committee constituted to look into the controversial deals entered into by the company's international business division, ITC chairman K.L. Chugh announced that he would retire on December 31. A successor has not been named as yet. The announcement came at a joint press conference addressed by Chugh and Barry Bramley, chairman of ITC's UK-based parent company, BAT, signalling an end to the long-drawn-out conflict between BAT and ITC.

EDUCATION

Move to privatise higher education

THE government wants to encourage the corporate sector to fund higher education as the State now plans to accord greater priority to primary education. Keeping this in mind the University Grants Commission (UGC) has finalised the guidelines for the establishment of private universities in India.

The proposals of the government go beyond private endowments for libraries and chairs or even funds for research and development units. Instead, it extends to the establishment of universities, a prerogative, so far, enjoyed by the Union and State governments.

Centre will expand open education: The Centre proposes to extend open learning facilities in a phased manner, at the secondary level, all over the country. The allocation in the education department has been raised to Rs 1,825 crore from Rs 1,549.46 crore last year.

The bulk of the money will be spent on elementary and higher education. The outlay for education would be raised to six per cent of the GNP, from the present level of 3.7 per cent, by the year 2000.

The outlay for elementary education has been increased by 24.5 per cent to Rs 651 crore. The allocation of "Operation Blackboard" has been increased by 30 per cent.

Rupee slumps to new Low

The rupee on September 14, 1995, crossed the Rs 33.90/dollar mark to touch a low of Rs 33.90/dollar. Forex dealers said that continuing heavy demand for dollars from corporates and external debt payments contributed to the slump of rupee.

Confusion and mayhem continued at the forex markets as the rupee plummeted to a low of Rs 35.85 against the dollar on October 20, 1995.

By October 24, 1995, the RBI was forced to intervene in the forex market by pumping in \$ 40-50 million. The belated, stronger bid and the persistent RBI support of the rupee by selling dollars capped the US greenback's rise against the Indian currency and somewhat stabilised trade at the interbank foreign exchange market in New Delhi by October 27, 1995.

Allaying fears of a continuing downside of the rupee, the Commerce Minister P. Chidambaram on October 29, 1995, asserted that the recent fall was no more than a "correction" and that the rupee can only appreciate hereafter. India's foreign currency reserves which stood at \$ 20.80 billion on March 31, 1995, fell to \$ 19.6 billion by the end of the first quarter of the current financial year. As on October 6, 1995, the reserves stood at \$ 18.95 billion, a fall of nearly 1.9 billion since the beginning of the current financial year.

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JUNE

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LABOUR

National body on child labour set up

As part of measures to eliminate child labour in hazardous industries by the turn of the century, the government has set up a National Authority on Child Labour. A provision of Rs 850 crore has been made for the authority.

As a first step, the National Authority would identify all hazardous industries where children were employed and concentrate efforts to take them away from the same. A total of 15,000 schools are also being set up in different parts of the country to rehabilitate child labour. The government is also considering providing compensation to families whose wards were withdrawn from hazardous jobs.

HEALTH

Ban on sale of organs for transplants

THE government of India notified "The Organ Transplantation Act" on February 4, banning the sale of human organs, while making kidney, liver and heart transplants affordable for Indians. The new law has re-directed brain-dead cadavers as the proper source of all transplantable organs.

Every well-preserved cadaver can

save six lives since the heart, livers, pancreas, two kidneys, bone marrow and other organs can be harvested from it according to Dr P. Venugopal, who performed India's first successful heart transplant in 1994.

High Mortality rate in India

TWO million children out of 25 million born every year in India die within a year, according to a UNICEF report.

Though the country has made tremendous progress in reducing its infant mortality rate, from 129 per thousand in 1971 to 79 per thousand in 1992, the deaths continue due to malnutrition and avoidable infections. Children in India continue to face unequal chances of survival depending upon the place of birth. Infant mortality ranges from 17 per thousand live births in Kerala to 114 in Orissa. An estimated 38.8 million people live below poverty line in urban areas and it is estimated that 15 million to 16 million children live in conditions of acute deprivations with inadequate access to basic health-care, nutrition, safe drinking water and education.

PLANNING

Planning Commission dilutes appraisal document

THE Planning Commission placed its mid-term appraisal of the Eighth Five-Year Plan under wraps and decided to

come out with a sanitised and palatable version of the document.

The mid-term appraisal had taken a rather critical view of the Eighth Plan implementation as also the structural adjustment policies of the Narasimha Rao Government.

Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, Mr Pranab Mukherjee, a member of the Commission, Mr G.V. Ramakrishna observed that no dilution of the document should take place while making the editorial changes. Mr Ramakrishna disclosed that as a result of the structural adjustment policies, the savings rate and investment rate had gone down and unemployment and poverty had increased.

The Planning Commission suggested to the government to restrict its attempt to control the fiscal deficit which could impair economic growth. Instead the government should aim to cut down its rising revenue deficit.

Decontrol of oil sector favoured

THE Sunder Rajan Committee appointed by the Ministry of Petroleum recommended the total deregulation of all the oil industry sectors by removing the Administered Price Mechanism (APM).

The report, "Hydrocarbon perspective: 2010" has stated that the main thrust of the government's structural reforms now lay in eliminating remaining barriers to industrial production, investment and import of technology.

Population below poverty line drops to 25%

ACCORDING to a World Bank report, "Social indicators of development 1995", the percentage of population below the poverty line has been reduced from 43 per cent in 1970-75 to 25 per cent in 1988-93.

The upper poverty line has been pegged at an annual income of Rs 1,296 in 1985-93.

Life expectancy rose to 61 years in 1988-93 against 55 in 1980-85 and 50 in 1970-75.

High inflation cause for rupee erosion

As per the data of the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) high inflationary pressures have led to the erosion of the rupee to 41.66 paise in urban India.

Ajmer has registered the highest price rise of 171 per cent leading to the steepest fall in the value of the rupee at 36.90 paise among the 59 urban centres for which CSO has released data up to December 1994.

As against the national average price rise of 140 per cent, Sambalpur in Orissa registered the lowest rise of 115 per cent. Here, the purchasing power of the rupee was the highest at 48.51 paise relative to the consumer rupee of 1994-95.

Among the four metropolises, Madras recorded the steepest fall in the value of rupee, owing to highest price rise during the period, with the rupee commanding a value of only 37.7 paise.

Bombay recorded a price rise of 143 per cent leading to fall in the real worth of the rupee to 41.15 paise.

The figures show that only 31 per cent of the population had access to safe water in 1970-75, which increased to 74.5 per cent in 1988-93.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

India-USA

THE momentum given to furthering of ties between USA and India, with the visit of Prime Minister Rao in May 1994, was maintained. US Energy Secretary, Ms Hazel O'Leary, visited India and several MoUs for cooperation in energy related areas marked the visit. On April 18, 1995, India and USA signed an agreement, "Common Agenda on Environment", to share perspectives and positions on global environmental issues.

The First Lady of USA, Mrs Hillary Rodham Clinton, arrived on March 27, 1995, on a "goodwill visit". During her visit she announced that India would be the first country to benefit from the 10-year \$100 million USAID girls and women's education initiative that she announced at the Copenhagen Social Summit.

India's External Affairs Minister, Mr Pranab Mukherjee, made visit to USA in June 1995, in wake of the Charar-e-Sharief incident. America endorsed the polls in Kashmir as well as the Indian contention that the Kashmir dispute was a bilateral affair.

While presenting the 1995 National Trade Estimate Report on foreign trade barriers, US Trade Representative, Mr Mickey Kantor, expressed his grievance over India still having too many trade restrictions. He, however, acknowledged that India had removed several since liberalisation.

The report lists America's trade grievances against over 40 developed and developing countries. The chapter on India says among other things, that despite recent tariff reductions and liberalisation of quantitative restrictions, India's ban on consumer goods imports, quantitative restrictions under the negative imports list, and high tariffs, remain a serious impediment to US trade, especially in agricultural and consumer items.

Foreign Policy setback: The US Senate, on September 21, 1995, passed Clinton administration's proposal for supplying arms worth 368 million dollars to Pakistan.

The amendment, moved by Republican Senator Hank Brown, aims at supplying Pakistan with three P-3C-II maritime surveillance and strike aircraft, along with 28 Harpoon anti-ship missiles with a range of 120 km, 360 AIM-9L sidewinder air-to-air missiles, 18 C-Nite, night-sighting and targetting kits for Cobra attack helicopters, 24 M-198 towed Howitzers and four AN/TPQ 36 artillery locating radars.

A section in the senate warned that any such move would force India to go in for similar weapons, unleashing a new arms race in South Asia, while others argued that fairplay demanded that Pakistan should get the military equipment it had already paid for.

India-South Africa

INDIA'S relations with South Africa became stronger with the visit of President Nelson Mandela to New Delhi on January 25, 1995. He was the Chief Guest at the Republic Day parade. This was Dr Mandela's first visit to India after becoming the President of South Africa. Three agreements were signed to provide framework for all-encompassing cooperation, especially in the political and economic spheres.

India-Sri Lanka

THE visit of President Chandrika Kumaratunga of Sri Lanka helped re-establish the friendly and mutually beneficial ties with India. To boost the economic cooperation between the two countries Ms Kumaratunga proposed a free-trade and investment agreement.

India-Iran

PRESIDENT of Iran, Mr Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, visited India in April, 1995. The major thrust of his visit was on consolidating and diversifying economic and trade cooperation between the two countries.

This was the first visit of an Iranian

President to India, after the Islamic revolution of 1979.

India, Iran and Turkmenistan signed an important memorandum that will provide rail and road access to Indian goods to Central Asia, through Iran, and vice versa.

India-Pakistan

WITH Pakistan, the usual tensions and misunderstandings continued because of Islamabad's obstinacy and basic hostility towards India. The relations suffered another blow when, in January, 1995, Pakistan asked India to close down its Consulate-General Office in Karachi.

Charging Pakistan with indulging in and encouraging all forms of terrorism—both abroad and at home—India said on September 29, 1995, at the United Nations, that Islamabad deserved to be condemned by the international community for such actions.

Pakistan was indulging in all forms and manifestations of terrorism—cross border terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir and Afghanistan, State terrorism against ethnic minorities in Sindh and had clear linkages with international terrorism—Indian representative Ms Manimekalai told the UN General Assembly.

India-Russia

India and Russia signed eight accords in various fields on December 23, 1994, during the visit of Russian Prime Minister Mr Viktor Chernomyrdin. The accords were designed to give impetus to India-Russia bilateral relations.

A protocol signed in New Delhi on July 6, 1995, by External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee and the visiting Russian Deputy Prime Minister Mr Yuri F. Yarov, stated that India and the Russian Federation have decided to expedite work on finalising the supplement to the agreement entered into by the erstwhile USSR over six years ago on cooperation in the construction of a nuclear power plant in Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu.

During Mr Pranab Mukherjee's visit to Russia, in August, he discussed with

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

his counterpart Andrei Kozyrev a wide range of bilateral, regional and international issues. This was first full-format Indo-Russian negotiations at foreign ministers' level since the breakup of USSR.

India-China

RELATIONS with India and China too improved during the year. On March 4, 1995, India and China reached an agreement to open two more points along the border at Nathu La in the Sikkim sector and another in the middle sector, for meetings between their military personnel.

On July 17, Home Minister S.B. Chavan, on a week-long visit to China, reiterated India's willingness to continue to work with China to maintain substantive contacts in all areas.

A meeting of the Sino-Indian Joint Working Group (JWG) on the border question yielded a breakthrough at New Delhi on August 20, when both countries agreed to pull back troops at four points on the Arunachal Pradesh border. The agreement ended a 33-year-old eyeball-to-eyeball deployment where the two forces are separated by as less as 50 to 100 yards.

India-Bangladesh

INDIA and Bangladesh share some contentious issues for which solutions have not been found. They are i) the issue of sharing of Ganga waters, ii) illegal migration into India, and iii) India's proposal for a rail and road corridor to the isolated northeast. Attempts were made during the year to solve the issues but success was elusive.

Talks between India and Bangladesh ended at Dhaka on June 25, 1995, without any breakthrough on the issue of sharing Ganga waters. It was, however, agreed to reactivate the Joint Rivers Commission (JRC) to work out details on sharing of the waters of common rivers, including the Ganga, on a permanent basis.

Bangladesh High Commissioner to India Shafi Sami disclosed on October 13, 1995, that his country was ready to take back Chakma refugees settled in Tripura.

However, the offer would not be kept open for an indefinite period.

Mr Sami, who had earlier visited the refugee camps, said conditions were now favourable for the return of Chakma refugees who had left the Chittagong Hill Tracts in Bangladesh in 1986 and taken shelter in Tripura.

India-France

PRIME Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao's four-day visit to France from June 11, 1995, provided the much needed impetus to Indo-French relations. The parleys yielded several agreements and set the stage for accelerating French investment in India, apart from obtaining support of India's stand on Kashmir.

India and France also resolved their differences over the 780-MW Dulhasti power project and the issue of outstanding claims on the HBJ pipeline, paving the way for work to recommence soon on the project in the Kishtwar region of Jammu and Kashmir.

A reassurance was given to the French industry that India's liberalisation policy would remain unchanged despite the emergence of non-Congress Governments in many States.

India-Denmark

PRIME Minister of Denmark, Mr Poul Nyrup Rasmussen, visited India on September 7, 1995, on a 11-day visit. A whole lot of issues, including Indo-Pak relations, non-proliferation and UN reforms, figured in Mr Rasmussen's talks with the Indian leaders.

While addressing members of CII, the Danish Prime Minister said that Denmark was extending a \$ 5 million soft credit line to India, in addition to the \$ 10 million credit line agreed to in early 1995.

India-Switzerland

A high level Swiss team led by the Swiss Vice-President and Minister for Economic Affairs, Mr Jean Pascal Delamuraz, arrived in New Delhi on February 4, 1995. It was first high level del-

egation from Switzerland in many years. Since the opening of the new economic environment, Switzerland has consolidated its position as one of the major trade and investment partners of India. It has become the 15th largest buyer of Indian goods. More than 200 new agreements with Indian firms have been approved since mid 1991.

India-Italy

PRESIDENT of Italy, Mr Oscar Luigi Scalfaro visited India on a four-day State visit on February 10, 1995. His visit coincided with the Indian Engineering Trade Fare, held in New Delhi, for which Italy was the partner country this time. President Scalfaro was the first Italian President to visit India since World War II.

India-Egypt

INDIA and Egypt opened a new chapter in their relations on October 16, 1995, with the signing of three landmark agreements during Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao's two-day visit to Cairo.

The umbrella accord to combat terrorism is aimed to tackle all forms of criminal acts, particularly terrorist, trans-national and organised crimes. The two countries will exchange information, experiences and techniques to check the menace and is the first between India and an Arab country.

Agreements on science and technological cooperation, and to develop comprehensive cooperation in the field on information were also signed.

India-Turkey

PRESIDENT of Turkey, Mr Suleyman Demirel, visited India on January 30, 1995, on a four-day official visit. His visit helped in strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries. The visit was also important in India's broader pursuit of strengthening relations with member-countries of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC). Turkey is among the four countries which form the OIC's "contact group" for Kashmir.

Round-up of International Affairs

1995 IN A NUTSHELL

The world saw some dramatic developments during the year. While peace initiatives were made in some places, in others strife continued. The United Nations turned fifty years old amid questions about its future. The organisation faced not only a financial crisis, but questions about its own relevance.

Almost as soon as the nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) was signed, China and France resumed their nuclear tests, inviting global outrage. Both countries refused to stop the tests, showing the hypocrisy of the nuclear powers.

In West Asia, the messenger of peace, Yitzhak Rabin, was assassinated. It was expected, however, that the peace process would not suffer.

There was a hope in Bosnia too. A peace Initiative was launched to end Europe's worst conflict since World War II. Whether it would succeed remained to be seen. Chechnya too looked for a solution amid reports that chemical weapons had been used in several areas.

World summits continued during the year. The First Social Summit brought forth a declaration to end poverty, but it was not clear who would fund the programme. The Eighth SAARC Summit finally got down to business and decided to establish a preferential trade agreement. The UN's conference on women in Beijing brought in focus issues relating to women.

International economy, which had got severe jolts from the Mexican crisis, saw the alignment of trading blocs and trade wars between nations. The Barings bank collapse showed how fragile the system was.

Nearer home, Sri Lanka mounted an offensive against the LTTE, while Pakistan faced trouble in Karachi. Nepal saw a change of government. In Myanmar, there were signs of change too, as the pro-democracy leader, Suu Kyi, was released after six years of house arrest.

In Qatar, the crown prince overthrew the Emir, while in Iraq, Saddam Hussein was distressed when his family members fled the country.

U.N. TURNS FIFTY

THE United Nations celebrated its 50th anniversary on June 25, 1995, amid concern about the world body's tattered finances and growing scepticism over its effectiveness.

Overshadowing the anniversary was the perilous state of the 185-nation body and the growing hostility towards the United Nations by the Republican-dominated US Congress.

The three-day UN special commemorative session on the 50th anniversary from 22-24 October, 1995, was attended by a gathering of 185 heads of State and government. Adopted at the end of the session was a six-part declaration urging a

redirection of the UN to greater service of mankind, especially those who are suffering and deprived.

The declaration focuses on development, peace and equality, and pledges to give the 21st century, a UN, equipped, financed and structured effectively. It also calls on the international community to defeat common threats as terrorism, transnational organized crime, illicit trade in arms and the production, consumption and trafficking of narcotics.

The declaration maintains that global peace, security and stability are futile unless the economic and social needs of the people all over the world are addressed.

TROUBLE SPOTS

IN Bosnia the fighting continued. In between there were efforts to bring peace but all were futile. Serbs continued to lash out aggressively. They blocked relief convoys, shelled Muslim cities and even took several UN Protection Force troops hostage in retaliation to the NATO airstrikes. The UN hostages were released by Serbs after hectic negotiations and bargaining, resulting in lot of humiliation for the UN.

USA stepped-up its efforts in October, 1995. Rival leaders in former Yugoslavia were flown to Dayton, Ohio in USA, on November 1, 1995, for peace talks. After hectic negotiations the US negotiator, Richard Holbrook, managed to broker ceasefire till the peace talks concluded.

The US plan for Bosnia envisages creation of two democratic entities within the present territorial limits of Bosnia. One will be Bosnia-Herzegovina, consisting of the Croat-Muslim federation; the second will be SRPSKA, an autonomous republic of Serbs. The peace plan insists that the two will continue to be part of a single country called Bosnia-Herzegovina.

After more than three weeks of negotiations and extensive US pressurisation the warring factions signed a peace agreement which, hopefully, would help bring peace back.

In Chechnya, although the Russians gained control of most Chechen towns, the rebel leader, Mr Dzhokhar Dudayev, still hides in the mountains. Peace talks held in Grozny, on May 25, 1995, under the auspices of the Organisation for Security and Co-Operation in Europe, failed. Russia wanted Chechens to surrender their weapons; but the Chechens wanted Russia to pull out all its troops and grant a general amnesty to all its citizens involved in the fighting.

Russia is likely to suffer for many years from its self-inflicted Chechen wound, a State which has seen unprec-

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edented repression by the Russians.

Unless a political solution is found, the war is expected to continue for many years. Russian President Yeltsin's brutal handling of the crisis has only alienated the Chechens.

In Afghanistan, the UN special envoy, Mr Mahmood Mestiri achieved a major breakthrough on February 11, 1995, when the warring Islamic factions agreed to form a multi-party governing council to replace the government headed by President Burhanuddin Rabbani. President Rabbani initially agreed to step down for the Council to take charge, but, on February 19, 1995, refused saying that he will step down only if the powerful new militia, the Taliban, is included in the new Council.

On October 8, 1995, the Taliban rejected a UN plea for a limited ceasefire in war-ravaged Afghanistan and vowed to attack Kabul to oust Burhanuddin Rabbani. The Taliban, comprising mostly youth from Madrasas and Islamic Seminaries, now loosely control more than one-third of Afghanistan, including the strategic western city of Herat not far from the Iranian border.

The prospects of peace in Ireland also increased with the announcement of complete cessation, by the Irish Republican Army (IRA), of military operations.

On February 22, 1995, Britain and Ireland launched the new Northern Ireland peace plan. The framework document promises that Britain and Ireland would drop rival constitutional claims to the province, putting the onus on the pro-British Protestant majority and Catholic nationalist minority to work out a new future together.

Pakistan continued to face problems of domestic violence. At Karachi, Pakistan's commercial capital, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's troubles were most evident. Karachi has become a blood-soaked city where about a dozen people are gunned down every day. Mohajirs, who form the majority in Karachi, are clamouring for their rights even as the Mohajir Quami Movement (MQM) is di-

vided into warring factions. Most bloodshed is attributed to their rivalry. However, several clashes take place between MQM factions and Ms Bhutto's PPP factions. There are threats of Karachi closing down indefinitely. Two US diplomats were killed in Karachi on March 8, 1995. On March 10, atleast ten people were killed in a bomb and machine gun attack on a crowded Shiite Muslim mosque. A fresh spate of violence was sparked off by the alleged gang rape of the sister of an underground MQM activist.

The four-member MQM delegation parleyed with the government team headed by Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Mr Nabi Dad Khan in Islamabad on July 11, 1995.

Following no headway with the MQM led by the London-based Mr Altaf Hussein, the government is seeking to have the Mohajirs bring out a change in its leadership so that other options are thrown up to bring peace in the troubled southern port city.

A prolonged spell of violence has cost the Pakistan economy dearly. The port city of Karachi, which is Pakistan's commercial and industrial hub, has witnessed a flight of capital.

Peace had got a chance in West Asia with the arrival of Yasser Arafat at the autonomous Gaza Strip on July 1, 1994, after 27 years of exile. Israel and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), on September 24, 1995, agreed to expand Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank.

The agreement covers redeployment of Israeli troops outside Palestinian areas on the West Bank and handing over civil powers. It allows Palestinians to run their own affairs in the Gaza strip and West Bank.

Israel's parliament on October 6, 1995, narrowly ratified an agreement giving the PLO control over West Bank cities after 28 years of Israeli occupation.

Israel on October 15, 1995, agreed to accelerate its withdrawal from West Bank towns, clearing the way for Palestinian elections by January 22, 1996.

Jenin, in the north of the West Bank,

was the first of the six Palestinian towns which the Army quit under the self-rule deal signed in Washington on September 28, 1995.

In Sri Lanka the coming to power of Ms Chandrika Kumaratunga brought in new hopes for solving the Tamil problem. The start was very encouraging. LTTE declared a unilateral "ceasefire" to mark the swearing-in ceremony of the new President.

However, the truce failed on April 19, 1995. Tamil terrorists rained renewed attacks. On April 28 and 29, 1995, they shot down two Sri Lankan Air Force planes, killing 95 persons on board. Things, thus, moved back to square one.

On August 3, 1995, President Kumaratunga proposed a peace package under which the status of the country was to change to "union of regions". She also proposed the merger of the Tamil-majority northern and eastern provinces. The LTTE, however, rejected the package.

Government troops launched a major offensive against LTTE on October 17, 1995. By November 22, 1995 the troops captured Jaffna, the stronghold of LTTE, after fierce fighting. Fall of Jaffna was a major setback for LTTE.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

First World Summit on social development

THE first world summit on social development, held in Copenhagen, ended on March 13, 1995. A 10-point declaration and a programme of action against poverty, unemployment and social injustices was approved.

The non-binding declaration was agreed in the two-day weekend session attended by 118 Heads of State and government, out of 184 countries represented.

Its significance was in putting social considerations on the world agenda in the same way the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro brought environmental concerns to the fore in 1992. Some nations, however, felt it reinforced a western power structure, embodied in the International Monetary Fund and

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World Bank, that restricted rather than raised up developing nations.

The Copenhagen declaration was criticised for failing to provide new financial resources.

Eighth SAARC Summit

THE seven-member South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) at their eighth summit which concluded at New Delhi on May 4, 1995, decided to establish a South Asian Preferential Trade Agreement (SAPTA) by December 8, 1995, to coincide with the 10th anniversary of the formation of the SAARC.

The Foreign Ministers were unanimous on the need to boost intra-region trade, which is worth about \$ 3 billion at present.

Details were worked out to raise the level of intra-SAARC trade from a meagre 3 per cent of the total trade figures of the members. A final list of 222 items was approved by the heads of States in New Delhi. India is on top of the list with 106 items, followed by Pakistan with 35, Sri Lanka 31, Maldives 17, Nepal 14, Bangladesh 12 and Bhutan 7.

The draft declaration expressed grave concern over the spread of terrorism in South Asia and urged member States to enact suitable legislation to give effect to the SAARC Convention on Suppression of Terrorism.

The summit rejected Pakistan's demand to amend the SAARC charter to include discussions on bilateral matters following President Farooq Leghari's indirect references to Kashmir.

Halifax Summit

THE seven richest countries—the US, Japan, Germany, France, the UK, Italy and Canada—held their annual economic summit at Halifax, Canada, from 15-17 June, 1995.

Little mutual accommodation was visible between the US and Japan in their bitter trade dispute. Japan, plagued by the rising value of the yen, was left to search for its own solution, and little was done to evaluate the impact on the

global economy in an environment where world markets tend to be increasingly integrated.

It was agreed upon to double the \$ 58 billion IMF credit fund that would be used to bail out countries on the verge of bankruptcy.

UN Women's Conference

ON September 4, 1995, about 5,000 delegates from 189 countries gathered at Beijing to attend a 12-day UN Conference on Women. Earlier, on August 30, 1995, almost 26,000 women participated in a parallel Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO) Forum, 50 km away from the main conference venue.

The issues discussed covered a broad spectrum involving women—economic opportunities, health, reproductive rights, human rights, poverty, status of women, literacy, violence against women and women's share in political decision-making. Also in focus was the girl child.

MENA Summit

THE Middle-East/North Africa (MENA) economic summit opened on October 29, 1995 at Amman, Jordan. King Hussein of Jordan said that the meeting aimed to provide the economic underpinnings for peace.

The three-day summit brought together leaders of Israel, Egypt and Jordan and senior officials from USA and Russia. Syria and Lebanon, the two Arab countries yet to have a peace pact with Israel, boycotted the summit.

The Amman meeting came one year after the Israeli-Arab Casablanca summit in Morocco. The Israel-PLO accord over West Bank also contributed to the holding of the summit.

Non-Aligned Summit

INDIA won a spectacular victory at the 11th non-aligned summit at Cartagena in Columbia in its lone battle against the monopoly of the nuclear powers over atomic weapons. The three-day Cartagena summit from 18-20 October 1995 was attended by 113 countries.

Pakistan suffered a major setback when the NAM summit frustrated Islamabad's attempt to seek mediation in Kashmir and unequivocally condemned all kinds of support to terrorist activities.

The heads of State and government disapproved political, diplomatic, moral or material support to terrorist activities, particularly across the border.

The summit was critical of economic conditions imposed on developing countries, opposed interventionism and called for a joint fight against racism and xenophobia which marginalised the Third World.

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

NPT Extended

THE Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), was extended indefinitely in May 1995, giving only five nations the right to pursue their nuclear programmes. Israel, India and Pakistan, the three "threshold States" which have nuclear capability, held out. India's argument is that the NPT is discriminatory, dividing the world into nuclear haves and have-nots.

The hypocrisy of the nuclear States became clear almost as soon as the NPT was signed. China went ahead with its

Another peacemaker falls

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel was shot dead by a Jewish far-right extremist at a rally in Tel Aviv on November 5, 1995. He was the first Prime Minister of Israel to be assassinated since the country was created in 1948.

Minutes before being shot, Mr Rabin had given a speech declaring that the time for Israeli-Arab peace had come at last.

The assassination stunned a nation that had never known a high-level political killing. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres was named as the new Prime Minister of Israel.

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nuclear bomb testing and France did the same, showing that the nuclear powers were not serious in reducing their weapons.

France set off a nuclear blast on September 5, 1995, beneath a remote South Pacific atoll, beginning a series of upto eight nuclear tests.

This was followed by a 110 kilotonne blast, more than five times powerful than the first one, on Fangataufa atoll on October 2, 1995, again drawing worldwide condemnation.

The blast on Mururoa atoll ended a three-year French moratorium on nuclear tests, that had been joined by all of the world's nuclear powers except China, which had set off an underground nuclear blast on August 17, 1995.

The French tests unleashed a global wave of anger. Chile and New Zealand recalled their ambassadors from Paris in protest. The White House urged a halt to any other tests and Japan said it regarded the test as "extremely regrettable".

China exploded its second underground nuclear device this year on August 17, 1995, evoking sharp reactions from

the international community.

This was China's 43rd test since the detonation of its first atomic bomb in 1964, and was conducted at the Lop Nor nuclear test centre in the north-west province of Xinjiang.

Pact on Nuclear reactors with North Korea

THE US and North Korea signed an agreement on June 13, 1995, on implementation of a nuclear accord aimed at dismantling the Communist country's nuclear programme.

The accord which came after several days of tense talks provides for a central role to the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organisation (KEDO) to provide two light-water nuclear reactors to North Korea.

The main stumbling block was North Korea's unwillingness to receive the reactors from South Korea. A way out of the precarious situation was found as a result of a compromise that reactors will be officially supplied by KEDO. This international consortium, consisting of US, Japanese and South Korean firms was set up in compliance with the American-North Korean agreement signed in Geneva.

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY

THE world economic order came for scrutiny during the period. Mexico's economic crisis showed that the world's financial system was dangerously fragile. Following the crash of its economy towards the end of 1994, the US bailed it out with a \$20 billion relief package on January 30, 1995, along with \$30 billion from IMF and the Bank of International Settlements. As Mexico, once thought of as a model of free market reform, starts afresh and reconstructs its economy, fears of similar collapse in other countries become very real.

Mexico's economic crisis prompted many to question what went wrong with a country so clearly headed for sustained prosperity?

Mexico overspent. As growth accel-

erated, due to reforms launched by former President Carlos Salinas, spending soared. Companies bought foreign-made equipment, the government invested in roads and other infrastructure and consumers binged on imported goods.

But, Mexico's exports didn't keep pace with imports, resulting in a rising trade deficit. The shortfall in Mexico's current account rose from \$7.5 billion in 1990 to an estimated \$28 billion in 1994.

Investment flows into Mexico slowed sharply. Mutual funds and other institutional investors diversified into other emerging markets.

On December 20, 1994, the new government of President Zedillo lowered the support floor for the *Peso*. On December 22, the government scrapped its *Peso* defence entirely. The new policy was intended to shore up confidence, but resulted in panic selling of stocks and bonds. It touched off a cycle of currency and market plunges that subsided only after USA announced a rescue package in mid-January, 1995.

Barings Collapse: All major Asian markets tumbled on February 27, 1995, following the collapse of the 233-year old London finance house Barings Plc, which was hit by at least \$800 million in losses after a gamble on derivatives by 28-year-old Singapore-based trader Nick Leeson.

"Derivatives" is a term that applies to a huge range of trading instruments such as swaps, options and futures, which derive their value from underlying financial assets such as bonds, currencies, shares and commodities. Leeson had done his derivative deals in the hope that the Tokyo index would go up. But, it slid thus making the bank bankrupt.

Founded in 1762, Barings was one of Britain's oldest, most prestigious investment banks which lists Queen Elizabeth II among its clients. It was described in 1818, by the French statesman, the Duke de Richelieu, as the sixth great power in Europe, alongside England, France, Russia, Austria and Prussia.

World Trade Organisation

The World Trade Organisation (WTO) came into effect from January 1, 1995, with the backing of 85 founding members, including India.

WTO, with the power to settle trade disputes between nations and to widen the principle of free trade to sectors such as services and agriculture, covers more areas than GATT, whose rule had been in operation for the last 47 years. WTO envisages the reduction of tariffs by more than one-third and is concerned with the further opening of the markets.

India joined the WTO by promulgation of two Presidential ordinances amending the Patents Act, 1970. However, the ordinances lapsed in May, 1995 as the Rajya Sabha did not support the bill to change the Patents Act.

Developing Countries worse off than in 1990: According to UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) report, the world's least developed countries (LDCs), 32 of them in Africa, face a gloomy economic future because of wars and political instability. The highlights of the report are:

- The overall economic growth rate in the LDCs was only 1.4 per cent in 1994, compared with 3.3 per cent in 1993.

- The combined population of the LDCs is estimated at 560 million, or one tenth of the world's population.

- The average per capita income in LDCs in 1993 was \$ 300, compared to more than \$ 1100 in the developing world as a whole and \$ 22,000 in industrialised countries.

The report says that the LDCs will continue to need substantial aid flows and other external support.

Human development Report '95

The Human Development Report, 1995 of the UNDP shows India in a poor light. India has been ranked 134 among 174 countries in the Human Development Index (HDI), which takes into account life expectancy, literacy and adjusted real GDP per capita.

In the Gender-related Development Index (GDI), which takes note of inequality in achievement between men and women, India has been placed 99 among 130 countries.

GDI as well as Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM) are two additional indices prepared for the first time. In GEM, which measures the participation of women in economic and political decision making, India has been ranked 101 out of 116 countries. In fact in political empowerment, India ranks lower than Nepal, Bangladesh, Maldives and Sri Lanka.

Canada, USA and Japan lead the rankings among 174 countries in HDI. Sweden, Finland, Norway and Denmark, in that order, rank among the top countries in gender development.

NEPAL

Change of government

A communist government took over in Nepal, after the mid-term polls held in November, 1994. Mr Manmohan Adhikari was elected Prime Minister, thus making Nepal the first communist Monarchy of the world. However, no party was able to get a simple majority in the 205-seat House, known as *Pratinidhi Sabha*. The minority government of Prime Minister Adhikari, however, was not able to remain in power for long. In June, 1995, he resigned and King Birendra announced mid-term polls to be held sometimes in November 1995.

Nepal's Supreme Court, on August 28, 1995, ruled as unconstitutional and illegal Prime Minister Manmohan Adhikari's June 13 decision to ask the King to dissolve Parliament and ordered the House of Representatives to meet again.

The court ordered Nepal's Speaker and Council of Ministers to convene the special session of Parliament in order to introduce a vote of no-confidence against the minority Communist Government.

Nepali Congress leader, Mr Sher Bahadur Deuba, was appointed as Nepal's Prime Minister by the Himalayan Kingdom's constitutional monarch, King Birendra, on September 11, 1995.

Notwithstanding these frequent changes, democracy appears to be gaining strength in this Himalayan Kingdom.

MYANMAR

Suu Kyi freed after six years

MYANMAR pro-democracy leader and Nobel Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi was freed unconditionally after six years of house arrest in Yangon on July 10, 1995.

The release of Suu Kyi by Myanmar's ruling Military Junta eliminated the last hurdle in the way toward Yangon's normalisation of relations with the world outside critical of the country's human rights record.

Ms Suu Kyi, 50, was born in Yangon. She is the daughter of Aung San, who led Myanmar's struggle for independence from the British. She travelled widely, studying in New Delhi and Oxford University and working for the United Nations in New York and Bhutan. In 1988 she returned to Yangon to nurse her dying mother, just as anti-government demonstrations exploded on the streets nationwide.

Suu Kyi publicly criticised Myanmar's dictator Gen Ne Win, pressing for non-violent moves to democracy and condemning human rights abuses by the government. She was arrested the following year on July 20, 1989, for allegedly inciting unrest.

Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy won a landslide victory in 1990 general elections, but the Junta, officially known as the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), refused to honour the results, virtually suppressing all dissent.

In 1991, Suu Kyi was awarded the Nobel peace prize. She was cited for "one of the most extraordinary examples of civil courage in Asia in recent decades".

THAILAND

Opposition wins elections

THE Opposition Chart Thai (Thai nation) Party won the most seats and ousted the ruling Democrat Party in Thailand's general election on July 2, 1995.

The Chart Thai won 92 seats compared with the Democrats' 86 seats. The third largest party was New Aspiration with 57 seats while Chart Pattana (development) came in fourth.

Chart Thai leader Banharn Silpa-Archa became Thailand's Prime Minister.

GREAT BRITAIN

Major wins leadership ballot

THE British Prime Minister, Mr John Major, won a clear victory on July 4, 1995.

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He was backed by 218 of the 327 Conservative Members of Parliament who voted. Under party rules, Mr Major needed only 165 votes and a 50-vote margin over his challenger to stay on as Prime Minister.

Moving quickly to capitalise on a hard-fought party leadership race, John Major appointed a new Cabinet line-up on July 5.

Mr Michael Heseltine, was appointed Deputy Prime Minister.

ITALY

Dini survives no-trust vote

ON October 26, 1995, Italian Prime Minister survived a no-confidence vote in the parliament. A total of 291 deputies supported the motion, tabled by the former Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, while 310 rejected it.

Mr Dini survived the no-confidence vote after the communist party, Refondazione Comunista, decided to support him. Mr Dini told the parliament that he would step down by the end of the year, at the latest after the budget had been approved.

CANADA

Quebec rejects independence by slim margin

QUEBEC province of Canada narrowly rejected independence in a referendum on October 31, 1995.

Results showed that 50.6 per cent of Quebecers voted against independence compared to 49.4 per cent who were in favour of secession from Canada. Separatist premier Jacques Parizeau lashed out at English speakers and ethnic communities whose "No" vote led to the defeat of the sovereignty proposal.

It was the second time in 15 years that Quebec nationalists lost their bid for independence, but the narrow result was interpreted by separatist leaders as proof that many Quebecers felt the Canadian Confederation was a failure.

US-RUSSIA RELATIONS

RELATIONS between Russia and USA remained stagnant. Both countries failed to move closer over Chechnya,

US most competitive nation

According to an annual economic survey compiled by the World Economic Forum, USA was the world's most competitive nation in 1994, followed by Singapore.

Japan, world leader for nine years, slid past Hong Kong to number four because of economic troubles, poor infrastructure and a drop in business confidence.

In Europe, Switzerland headed the list in 5th place, followed by Germany and Netherlands in 6th and 7th. East Asia was highly dynamic with Malaysia, South Korea, Taiwan and Thailand joining Singapore and Hong Kong in the top 10.

NATO and supply of Nuclear reactors to Iran. A summit meeting between President Clinton and President Yeltsin was held on May 9, 1995. President Yeltsin agreed to delay the sale of two nuclear reactors to Iran, which the US government thinks will be used to manufacture nuclear weapons. However, President Clinton could not convince Russia to scrap the deal.

President Yeltsin, however, committed to formally join NATO's "partnership for peace"—the programme of cooperation with ex-Soviet States. Russia was supposed to have signed the "partnership for peace" document in December 1994, but had backtracked at the last moment over fears that NATO was moving too quickly to expand eastwards by enrolling Moscow's former East European allies as members.

US-CHINA RELATIONS

RELATIONS between China and the United States touched a new low with Beijing on June 17, 1995, taking the unusual step of recalling its Ambassador to the US, ostensibly for consultations.

China's snub to Washington was triggered by Clinton administration's

ARMS RACE

France world's top arms merchant

According to a study by the Congressional Research Services, which works exclusively for the US Congress, France has become the top arms merchant of the world. France exported \$ 11.4 billion worth of arms to developing countries in 1994. The US sales stood at \$ 6.1 billion.

West Asia remains the biggest purchaser of arms, with Saudi Arabia alone accounting for as much as \$ 9.5 billion in 1994, China was second with \$ 2.5 billion followed by Israel \$ 2.4 billion, Qatar \$ 1.3 billion and Pakistan \$ 1.2 billion.

Top Five Asian Military Powers

(Total Asian Countries: 37)

Total defence forces (in thousands): China (3200), Russia (1714), N. Korea (1128), India (1100), Pakistan (803).

Total defence spending (in US \$ billion): Russia (79.00), Japan (42.10), China (31.18), S. Korea (14.00), Saudi Arabia (13.70). India's defence spending is \$ 7.37 billion and ranks seventh.

Per capita Defence spending (in US \$): Israel (1411.76), Singapore (1048.95), Kuwait (1030.30), Oman (792.86), UAE (786.74). India ranks 32nd.

Defence spending as % of GDP: North Korea (25.45), Iraq (15.29), Oman (15.00), Saudi Arabia (13.11), Myanmar (10.76). Pakistan ranks 9th with 8.88%, India's rank is 35th.

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move to permit Taiwan's President Lee Teng-hui to visit the United States.

China has consistently opposed America's links with Taiwan, which have been politically insignificant ever since Richard Nixon decided to woo China. China has always insisted that other nations should downgrade relations with Taiwan if ties with Beijing were to continue smoothly.

In a two-hour summit meeting in New York on October 25, 1995, US President Bill Clinton and Chinese President Jiang Zemin agreed to resume dialogue on a broad agenda to repair strained relations.

Agreement to check copyright piracy: The Chinese and US trade officials reached an agreement on February 26, 1995, to stop Chinese piracy of American movies, music and other goods. The agreement helped forestall the threat of sanctions from both sides, averting a trade war between two of the world's largest economies. American businessmen had been losing more than \$1 billion in business each year, because of rampant theft of copyright and trademarks.

US-VIETNAM RELATIONS

Ties Resumed

PRESIDENT Bill Clinton on July 11, 1995, announced the United States will

normalise relations with Vietnam, closing a painful chapter in the US history two decades after the end of the Vietnam war which bitterly divided the country.

Vietnam, a nation of 75 million people with a GDP growth rate that closely follows China and Singapore in Asia, with its desire for legitimacy, membership of the World Bank-IMF group and the ASEAN, sees US recognition as a milestone in its surge towards becoming an emerging Asian economic giant of the future.

President Clinton's decision to normalise relations with Vietnam has pleased key US corporates but analysts believe it was almost certain to aggravate existing strains in US-China relations.

CHINA-TAIWAN

Missile Diplomacy

CHINA, on July 26, 1995, launched a seventh missile into the sea north of Taiwan, concluding a series of missile tests. The exercise was a show of force even as China was reportedly making all preparations to invade Taiwan if the island boosted its defences and declared independence.

Hardly a month after missile tests heightened tension between Beijing and Taipei, China announced a second round

of tests in the East China Sea north of Taiwan.

The missile tests took place between 15-25 August, 1995, with the target area closer to Taiwan than in the first round.

TURKEY

Ciller asked to form government

IN an effort to overcome a month-long political crisis, President Suleyman Demirel asked Prime Minister Tansu Ciller, on October 17, 1995, to form a new government. Ms Ciller had earlier resigned after she failed to obtain a vote of confidence for her minority government. Mr Demirel renominated her after she reached an agreement with the social democrats to renew a partnership deal.

Turkey's first woman leader had gone through difficult times after Deniz Baykal, leader of the Social Democrat Republican Peoples Party (RPP), withdrew his party from the previous coalition government over a dispute on austerity measures. The political crisis erupted when Ms Ciller was trying to cure the financial ills of Turkey and pushing for the customs union deal with EU at the end of the year.

Ms Ciller's government is expected to serve till December 24, 1995, when the country goes to early general elections.

IRAQ

Saddam gets seven more years

SADDAM Hussein, who has not tolerated dissent since he assumed power in 1979, called a national referendum on October 15, 1995, to seek endorsement for seven years more.

The government said Saddam won 99.96 per cent of the vote in a ballot that produced a 99.5 per cent turnout. Hundreds of people raced from their homes and fired handguns and AK-47 rifles into the air to celebrate Saddam's victory.

800 m undernourished in Third World

About 800 million people remain chronically undernourished in the developing countries, with 200 million children under the age of five suffering from acute or chronic protein and energy deficiencies. Although the food security of the world's people has improved in the last 50 years, there is still a long way to go.

The vast majority of the chronically undernourished live in countries that do not grow enough food for their population and cannot afford to fill the gap.

According to Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), urgent measures have to be taken to counter the problem of under-nutrition, which can only get worse with the world population expected to reach an extra three billion by 2030 AD.

The FAO plans to organise a World Food Summit in 1996 to provide a forum to assess progress since the World Food Conference in 1974 and to consider future action.

Economy Capsule

The phase of recession in the world is over but the growth rate of the world economy is likely to be low in the years to follow. While most of the developed countries remain contented with 2 to 3 per cent growth in their GDP, developing countries strive to achieve over 5 per cent of growth. The recent projections of UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development) and FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation) are indicators to this. In India, completion of four years of liberalisation has provided excellent results and the economy has started looking up. It is expected that the four years of reform would act as a foundation for sustainable economic development over the decades to come. Although the Indian economy has not been able to achieve the levels of development achieved by other Asian nations like China and Korea, the projections of about 6 per cent growth of the GDP this year are a pointer towards Indian economy gaining even better achievements in near future. However, relatively low level of social and rural development still remain areas of serious concern and adequate attention is required to be paid to these aspects.

I. ECONOMIC PROJECTIONS

Bleak future for developing Countries: In the latest report of the UNCTAD, gloomy future has been predicted for the world's poorest countries. Out of the 48 least developed countries (LDCs) almost one fourth are engaged in ethnic and Civil wars and 32 fall in Africa. LDCs of Africa include Angola, Zaire, Mozambique, Liberia, Chad, Sudan, Mali, Rwanda, Burundi and Sierra-Leone. United Nations categorises a country as LDC if its population is less than 75 million and per capita income less than \$ 699. The combined population of LDCs is estimated at 560 million by the UNCTAD report which is one-tenth of the world's total population.

The average per-capita income in LDCs in 1993 was \$ 300 as compared to more than \$ 1100 in the developing world as a whole and \$ 22,000 in the developed countries. The report further notes with concern that although the weather conditions in most of these countries are favourable for agriculture, yet production in most of the LDCs has remained low due to poor and inadequate infrastructure on the one hand and inadequacy of capital employed in agriculture sector, on the other. UNCTAD feels that some of the LDCs should benefit from improved commodity prices and strengthening of economic recovery in most parts of the world, but all the LDCs will continue to need substantial aid flows and other external support.

World Economic Development: During the previous year, the growth in the developing countries in Asia and countries of Central and Eastern Europe showed considerable rise. Reviewing the performance of world economy the UNCTAD report has noted that there has been a significant quickening of tempo of the world economic growth. Barring the African and Latin American countries, during the year 1994, all developing regions grew faster than the previous years. Growth rate of GDP in China was one of the highest, although lesser than the previous year. International trade grew even faster than the world output, thus helping to spread the economic growth all over the world. Both USA and Europe exported much larger quantum of commodities to the developing countries in West Asia, South East Asia and Latin America. The report, however, expressed concern on the lower level of commodity prices. Approaching cyclical deceleration in the USA because of declining value of dollar and import cuts in Latin America may slow down the entire global economy this year. A serious concern has been expressed on

growing unemployment all over the world and recommended special policy measures to tackle this problem. The economies of Latin America, where investment has gone down drastically due to Mexican currency crisis, fell from 3.7 per cent in 1994 to 2 per cent in 1995. The output in Mexico is expected to fall by more than 5 per cent, which is even more than the fall in output experienced by Mexico after 1982-debt crisis. Including Mexico, three largest economies of Latin America like Argentina and Brazil are facing severe problems on the economic front.

Fall in Cereal Output Likely: The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) released its forecast for 1995 global cereal output towards the end of July 1995. Owing to reduction in the forecasts of wheat and coarse grain production in the United States and CIS, the Rome based organisation in its regular publication "Food Outlook" projected wheat output at 549 million tonnes which was marginally below its earlier forecast made in May 1995. While the projected fall in wheat output was marginal, the forecast of fall for coarse grain output was 24 million tonnes below the previous one, at 815 million tonnes. This output projection is 69 million tonnes less than the production in 1994. The forecast of rice output, has, however, remained unchanged at 545 million tonnes. As a result of a fall in cereal output during 1995, the ratio of cereal stocks to trend consumption is also likely to fall to 14 per cent, while the minimum safe level is considered at 17 to 18 per cent. This fall in output could result in serious implications for low income food deficit countries, the forecast says. FAO further believes that higher cereal import cost in 1995 and 1996 is likely to worsen the balance of payment difficulties and may lead to increased foreign borrowings by the low income food deficit countries, thereby re-

sulting in higher international debt burden. It has also been estimated that the food import bill of such countries during the year 1995-96 could rise to \$ 2300 million, which is 20 per cent higher than that in 1994-95. FAO also said that the world trade in cereal was expected to rise in 1995-96 to 199 million tonnes, 5 million tonnes more than the last year's expected imports. International trade in wheat alone, is expected to be 95 million tonnes, which would be 2 million tonnes higher than the last year.

High Growth Rate Predicted: A leading economic forecasting group in the United States has forecast a robust economic growth for Indian economy. Known as WEFA (Wharton Econometrics Forecasting Associates) in its second quarterly report on the Indian economy, commending controlled inflation rate and higher industrial output, has predicted a sustained economic growth in India during 1995. As per the estimates of the report, released in the end of July 1995, the industrial output in India during 1995 is expected to be 9.9 per cent and with the increasing industrial output, it is likely to be in the double digit during 1996. Agricultural output, as per the report is expected to grow by 3.4 per cent due to better prices and a good monsoon. The growth of food processing industry is also likely to be more, further pushing up the demand for agricultural products. It further expects the merchandise exports to rise at 20.7 per cent. The report further predicts that the GDP will grow at 6.3 per cent during 1995 and 6.5 per cent in 1996. Inflation is expected to stay in single digit during 1995, while fiscal deficit is projected at \$ 1.9 billion which will be 6.2 per cent of the GDP.

FICCI's Encouraging Forecast: The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) through a study recently predicted the GDP of India to grow by 6 per cent during 1995-96. Industrial growth rate has also been predicted to achieve a high rate of growth. Titled as "Future of Indian Economy", the study expects Indian agriculture to grow

by 2 per cent during the current financial year while this rate would rise to 3 per cent during the next few years in view of improved technology, better irrigation facilities and increase in the use of fertilizers. The service sector would contribute 40 per cent to the GDP and the industry is expected to move ahead of agriculture with 32 per cent share while the agriculture would contribute 28 per cent to the GDP. Export growth rate is likely to be around 20 per cent during the current financial year while it would be around 24 per cent from the year 1996-97 to 2000-1. The study further estimates that by turn of the century growth rate of the GDP would be around 8 per cent, but to achieve that, the rate of investment has to rise smartly to the level of 30 per cent of the GDP.

Export to Rise to \$75-billion by 2001: Complementing the industry for achieving a growth rate of 27.2 per cent during the first quarter of the current financial year, the Union Minister of State for Commerce Mr P. Chidambaram stated that an export target of \$ 75 billion is likely to be achieved by the year 2000-2001. He explained that this could be achieved by obtaining 20 per cent growth rate in exports every year stressing the need for new and innovative measures to promote the exports. The Minister said that the openness and liberalisation of the economy was the key to achieving the higher growth rate.

RBI Report Commends Achievements: The Annual Report of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released in September 1995 has estimated the growth rate of GDP at 5.5 per cent during the current financial year. The report further projects the foodgrain output at 189.8 million tonnes, a growth rate of about 5 per cent over the previous year's output. Industrial growth rate, which was 8.4 per cent during the previous year, is likely to be much higher this year. The RBI commends the growth of foreign exchange reserves including gold and SDR balances from \$ 19,254 million in March 1994 to \$ 25,186 million at the end of 1994-95. The RBI report,

however, expressed deep concern over the uncontrolled fiscal and revenue deficits. Another area which needs immediate attention is the growing domestic debt and resultant debt servicing burden. Lending by the commercial banks to the priority sector has also remained below the target of 40 per cent.

II. NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY

Good Export Growth Rate: Over the last year's growth rate of 20 per cent in exports, the performance of the export sector during the first half of the current financial year has been very good. India's exports grew by 27.97 per cent during the first 5 months of the current financial year with the total exports touching \$ 12,305.11 million, which was \$ 9613.11 million higher than the exports during the same period last year. During the same period (April-August) 1995 imports showed an outstanding growth of 37.14 per cent and were \$ 14278.39 million, as against \$ 10,411.64 million during the same period previous year.

External Debt at \$ 95,321 million: In nominal terms, India's external debt stood at US \$ 95,321 million at the end of March 1995, as per the figures released by the RBI in September, 1995. Bilateral debt and the debt owed to the multilateral institutions constituted 50 per cent of the gross indebtedness at the end of March 1995, as against 48 per cent at the end of March 1994. At the same time internal debt has also been mounting rapidly. The comptroller and Auditor General of India has already expressed serious concern over the menacingly growing public debt which stood close to 68 per cent of the GDP at the end of 1993. It was also noted with concern that over half of the receipts of the Central Government comes out of the borrowing and 86 per cent of the internal borrowings are utilised towards debt service obligation; leaving very few additional resources for development/investment.

\$ 6.8-billion pledged: At the meeting of the India Development Forum (IDF) held in Paris recently India's development partners pledged \$ 6.8 billion as consortium commitment during the year 1995-96. Out of the above commitment, the concessional component has gone up from \$ 2.4 billion during the previous year to \$ 2.8 billion, which comes to 41.02 per cent of the total package of assistance. In totality, the commitment for the current financial year marks a significant increase over the previous year's commitment of \$ 6 billion. The increase in the pledged amount reflects firm support by donor countries towards India's programme of structural reforms and adjustments. The increased pledges reflect an increase from all member agencies. Among the donors, the contribution and commitment by Japan is most significant and showed an increase from \$ 1.2 billion during the previous year to \$ 1.4 billion this year, an increase of about 17 per cent. The representatives of the IMF during the meeting made favourable comments on the achievements by India and commended India's efforts in the fields of growth rate of the GDP, foreign exchange reserves and balance of payments. Complimenting India's achievements, several members were of the view that India needed to control its mounting fiscal deficit. The meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Mr D. Joseph Wood, Vice President and Mr Montek Singh Ahluwalia led a five-member Indian team to the meeting.

IDA Aid not to be cut: World Bank President James D. Wolfensohn declared at the International Development Agency (IDA) that aid to India to finance its poverty alleviation programmes would not be cut. He was addressing a press conference in Washington on October 10, 1995 after the meeting of the development Committee of the bank. The speculations about a possible cut in India's share were ripe with the U.S. Congress proposal to reduce by half the U.S. contribution of \$ 1.4 billion in the third tranche of IDA-10. Other donors are also expected to slash their contribution

from \$ 5.7 billion last year to anywhere in between \$ 2.7 billion and \$ 3.7 billion. India being the largest beneficiary under IDA drawing about \$ 1 billion every year, may experience slight cut in its share due to reduced replenishments. In the \$ 18 billion IDA-10, which began in June 1993 and is to run till June 1996, US contribution was \$ 3.75 billion or about 20 per cent of the total. IDA is involved in more than \$ 70 billion worth of projects in 70 developing countries and also renders advisory services on the matters of environment, economic reforms and education. India had sought \$ 1.7 billion from IDA and another \$ 1.1 billion from the IBRD in June 1995.

Lucas gets Nobel Prize in Economics: A US economist Robert Lucas has been awarded the 1995 Nobel Prize for economics for transforming the understanding of how the economic policy affects the people's expectations. The prize was awarded to Lucas by the Jury for having made the understanding of macro-economic theory easier. A professor at the University of Chicago, Robert Lucas's work is understood to have brought a revolutionary development in the rational expectation hypothesis. He is the eighth American in the last 11 years to have won the prestigious prize.

1995—UNDP Report: The latest UNDP (United Nations Development Programme) Report has ranked India as low as 134th among 174 countries in overall Human Development. The Human Development Index (HDI) takes into account various social indicators like incidence of poverty, life expectancy at birth, daily availability of calories, infant mortality rate, availability of safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, crude birth rate, total fertility rate, adult literacy rate, pupil-teacher ratio in primary schools etc. The poor ranking achieved by India in HDI shows that despite good trends in the field of economic development, a lot is required to be done on the social front. HDI, being the measure of average achievement of a country has

placed India below several other Asian countries like China (111th), Vietnam (120th), Indonesia (104), Philippines (100th), Malaysia (59th) and Thailand (58th). It implies that social services as well as development in India is very poor when compared with the achievements elsewhere in the world, particularly in Asia.

Value of Rupee Falls: On September 14, 1995 the exchange rate of Rupee against US dollar fell down drastically and starting from Rs 31.85 per dollar on August 31, 1995, it fell to Rs 33.92 per dollar on this date and has stabilised around that figure thereafter. During one day, i.e. 14th September the rate of rupees fell drastically from Rs 32.90 to Rs 33.92 per dollar. It further fell to more than Rs 35 per dollar. RBI sources dubbed the sudden rise as usual demand phenomenon and hoped that the previous value of around Rs 32 per dollar would be achieved within a few days. Even despite the wide variation during these days, the RBI did not intervene and maintained that in a shallow Indian market for foreign exchange, even a \$ 5 million exposure moves the market rate drastically. The weakening of Rupee against the dollar has resulted in a market guided devaluation of the rupee and this may result in increasing the inflationary pressures in the economy. Despite several measures adopted by the RBI, the value is likely to stabilise at around Rs 34.50 per dollar.

The fall in the value of rupee vis-a-vis dollar is bound to have some serious implications on the economy. While the volume of imports in dollar terms is likely to rise, the volume of exports and its growth rate is expected to suffer the pressure to the extent of change in the value of rupee. Recently, the Government estimated the total foreign debt at more than \$ 95 billion. The stock of debt in dollar terms is likely to come down proportionately with the enhanced dollar value.

Variations in Agricultural Data: As per the findings of a project carried out by the National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) pertaining to the area under cultivation, the total area under cultivation

is at least 20 to 30 per cent more than what is reported in books and Government reports. The said project work was carried out by the NRSA, sponsored by the Ministry of Agriculture about 3-year ago and the project report titled as "Land use and Land Cover in India" was submitted in end-of July 1995. The area under cultivation in India was mapped by way of remote sensing and the Ministry sources feel that in case of a discrepancy in the area reportedly under cultivation in the records of Ministry and the one calculated after remote sensing, more reliance has to be placed on the remote sensing data. Dr Deekshitulu, Director NRSA Hyderabad feels that there could be two explanations for this discrepancy. Firstly, at many places, land adjoining the railway tracks has been brought under cultivation, which does not figure in official documents and secondly, land earmarked as grass-land in official documents is actually being cultivated on ground. If the figures arrived at by the NRSA regarding cultivated area are to be believed, the overall productivity in the agricultural sector may be much below the level believed to be prevailing. Exact details of the report have not been made public as yet.

Huge sums Allocated for Central PSUs: The Government of India, in July end, 1995 allocated huge sums for revival of several PSUs (Public Sector Undertakings). A sum of Rs 2005 crore was allocated to National Textile Corporation (NTC) for modernisation. Remaining PSUs which have been allocated huge sums are 35 in number and have been allocated a total sum of Rs 5310 crore. These PSUs belong to coal, heavy engineering, petroleum and power sectors. This was announced by the Union Minister for Labour Mr P.A. Sangma at the consultative Committee meeting. The amount was sanctioned on the recommendations of various tripartite committees set-up for this purpose. The allocation for NTC is to modernise 79 out of the 120 NTC mills. Another sum of Rs 50 crore was released out of National Renewal Fund for retrain-

ing and development of workers affected by the voluntary retirement scheme.

Rs 3951 Crore Package for the Poor: A hefty package of Rs 3951 crore was announced by the Government, to be implemented from the independence day, 1995. The package is to cover the cost of implementation of four welfare schemes including a mid-day-meal scheme, a National Social Assistance Scheme (NSAS), a rural group life insurance scheme and a scheme to construct one million dwelling units under the Indira Awas Yojana. The first three schemes were announced alongwith the Budget proposals for 1995-96 and it was after the report of a committee headed by the Secretary, Department of Rural Development, that final shape was given to them. The massive mid-day-meal scheme is to cover about 110 million children in more than 5 lakh Government, local body and private aided Government Primary Schools in a 3-year period. Under this scheme, foodgrains at the rate of 3 kg per child per month would be provided and the foodgrains are to be provided free-of-cost by the Union Government in addition to reimbursement to the State governments at the rate of Rs 25 per quintal to cover the transportation and handling charges. The second scheme called NSAS would include old age pension and family benefit in the event of the death of the bread earner and maternity benefits. The maternity benefit scheme aims at providing Rs 300 to mothers aged 19 years and above living below poverty line for pre-natal and ante-natal care and nutritional support for first two live births. A lump sum assistance of Rs 5000 in case of death due to natural cause of the main bread earner for the families living below poverty line and Rs 10,000 in case of accidental death has been provided. In addition, poor and destitute people aged 65 years and above, with no other means of subsistence will get an old age pension of Rs 75 per month.

New Education Scheme for the Deprived: The Union Government has launched a unique scheme to cover the

workers in "Beedi", mine and cinema sectors with a view to provide incentives to them to send their children for higher education. The Scheme, which was made effective from September 1, 1995, recognizes that the wages in these sectors are very low and would cover only those workers drawing less than Rs 3500 per month. Under the scheme each child passing class X in first division will be given Rs 500; for second division a sum of Rs 350; and for third division an amount of Rs 250. For those who pass Class XII, this amount would be Rs 750, 500 and 350 for three divisions respectively. These amounts for the graduates would be Rs 1000, Rs 750 and Rs 500, while for passing professional examination in medicines, engineering and architecture, these sums would be Rs 2000, Rs 1500 and Rs 1000 for three divisions respectively. The scholarships on the same pattern, but of smaller sums would also be available to the students from class I to VIII. 50 per cent of these scholarships will be given to girls. It is estimated that there are about 4.5 million workers in these three sectors and the largest number of 4.2 million is that of the "Beedi" workers.

Substantial Credit Growth: During the current financial year, the growth of credit expansion has been much better than that in the year 1994-95. Aggregate deposits with the banking sector during the first quarter of 1995-96 dropped by Rs 8399 crore compared to a growth of Rs 13915 crore during 1994-95. Similarly bank credit has shown a small growth of Rs 657 crore during the first quarter, compared to Rs 2893 crore during the previous year. Of this food credit grew by Rs 3134 crore while the non-food credit dropped by Rs 2486 crore. However, when compared with March 31 basis, the aggregate deposits between July 7, 1995 and March 31, 1995 dropped by Rs 8399 crore compared to a drop of only Rs 865 crore from March 31 to July 8, 1994 basis, the RBI claimed that the apprehensions about the reduction in bank credit were unfounded.

Round-up of Current General Knowledge

ABBREVIATIONS

AFTA: Asia Free Trade Area.
APEC: Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation.
ASCON: Army Switched Communication Network.
ASEAN: Association of South East Asian Nations.
ASLV: Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle.
ATA: Air Time Authority.
BOLT: BSE On-Line Trading (System)
CAPEX: Computer Aided Paperless Examination System.
CB: Citizen Band (Radio).
CIWFC: Close-in-Weapon and Fire Control.
CLASP: Child Labour Action and Support Project.
CONCORD: Council for North Indian States for Cooperation and Regional Development.
DPEP: District Primary Education Programme.
DRDO: Defence Research and Development Organisation.
DWR: Doppler Weather Radar.
ECPAT: End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism.
ECS: Electronic Clearing Service.
EDI: Electronic Data Interchange.
ERNET: Educational and Research Network.
ESPN: Entertainment and Sports Programming Network.
FANS: Future Air Navigation System.
FII: Foreign Institutional Investor.
GDI: Gender-related Development Index.
GEM: Gender Empowerment Measure.
HDI: Human Development Index.
HMS: Hybrid Mail Service.
IMY: Indira Mahila Yojana.
INSAS: Indian Small Arms System.
INTERACT: Initiative to Educate, Rehabilitate and Assist Child Victims of Terrorism.
ISDN: Integrated Services Digital Network.

MCLR: Medium Capacity Long Range (Aircraft)
MRTS: Mass Rapid Transit System
MTCR: Missile Technology Control Regime.
NAFTA: North America Free Trade Agreement.
NASDAQ: National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation.
NEDB: North-Eastern Development Bank.
NHRC: National Human Rights Commission.
NPT: Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.
NRBI: National Rural Bank of India.
NRF: National Renewal Fund.
NSAP: National Social Assistance Programme.
NSC: National Security Council
NSE: National Stock Exchange
OTCEI: Over the Counter Exchange of India.
PILCOM: Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka Committee (for World Cup 1996).
PSLV: Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle.
RAF: Rapid Action Force.
RDS: Radio Data Servicing.
SAARC: South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.
SAFTA: South Asian Free Trade Area.
SAPTA: South Asian Preferential Trading Agreement.
SEBI: Securities and Exchange Board of India.
TRAI: Telecom Regulatory Authority of India.
VAT: Value Added Tax.
WIPO: World Intellectual Property Organisation.
WTO: World Trade Organisation.

AWARDS

NATIONAL AWARDS

Arjuna Awards, 1994

SACHIN Tendulkar (*Cricket*), Karnam Malleswari (*Weightlifting*), Jaspal Rana (*Shooting*), Jude Felix (*Hockey*), S.

Rajaratnam (*Kabaddi*), Ashok D. Desai (*Kabaddi*), K.C. Rosa Kutty (*Athletics*) and Manoj Prasad (*Table Tennis*).
Bihari Prasad 95

HAS been awarded to Rajasthani play
 Hwright Hamidulla for his play *Har*
Baur published in 1986.

Dr B.C. Roy award, 1994

DR R.I. Mittal of Patiala, Dr R. Ramamurthy of Madras and late Dr A.K.N. Sinha of Patna have been awarded the 1994 Dr B.C. Roy National award.

The award is announced every year on July 1, which is observed as "Doctors Day".

B.D. Goenka award, 1994

THE Pranov Roy-Vinod Dua television team and Mr Ichan Daruwalla, editor of Bombay Samachar, have been selected for the 1994 B.D. Goenka award for excellence in journalism.

C.K. Naidu centenary award

LALA Amarnath is the first recipient of the C.K. Naidu centenary award for outstanding contribution to the Indian cricket.

CSIR Young Scientist award

THE Council for the Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has awarded the Young Scientist award to Rohit Tandon, a student of City Montessori School, Lucknow. He had won the gold medal at the International Robotic Olympiad.

Ashok Chakra

Major Rajiv Kumar Joon of 22 Grenadiers has been posthumously awarded the Ashok Chakra for his exemplary courage and self-sacrifice while fighting militants in Jammu and Kashmir in September 1994.

Lt Col Harsh Uday Singh Gaur and Naib Subedar Sujana Singh have been posthumously decorated with Ashok Chakra, for laying down their lives in the battle against foreign mercenaries in Jammu and Kashmir.

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

piad, held in USA in May 1995.

Dadabhai Naoroji Memorial Award

DR Verghese Kurien, chairman of the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), has been chosen for this year's Dadabhai Naoroji Memorial Award for "advancing the interests of India in the sphere of cooperation and rural development".

Dronacharya Award, 1994

VETERAN athletics coach Illyas Babbar has been selected for the award. The award is meant to honour eminent coaches, who have successfully trained sports persons or teams. It has been given after a gap of three years.

Gandhi Peace Award, 1995

VETERAN freedom fighter and chairman of the freedom fighters' high power committee, Mr Tulshidas Jadhav, has been selected for the award. The award has been instituted by Norway's Mahatma Gandhi Peace Foundation.

Geeta Chopra award for bravery

14-year-old Richa Chaudhary has been selected for the Geeta Chopra award for bravery.

G.M. Modi Science award

PROF C.S. Seshadri has been given the award for his path-breaking analysis of many complex mathematical problems, especially in the fields of Algebraic groups. Indira Gandhi National Integration Award

THE tenth Indira Gandhi National Integration Award was shared by slain Punjab Chief Minister Beant Singh (*posthumous*) and noted Gandhian social worker Natwar Thakkar, for their outstanding contributions to national integration.

Jnanpith award, 1994

EMINENT litterateur and Kannada author Dr Anantha Murthy won the 1994

Dada Saheb Phalke award, 1994

Legendry film star Dilip Kumar, who strode the Hindi film world like a colossus for more than four decades, has been selected for the prestigious Dada Saheb Phalke award.

Jnanpith award.

Kalidas award, 1994-95

MS Shantarao, well-known classical dancer, has been given the 1994-95 Kalidas award in recognition for her outstanding contribution to creative arts. The award has been instituted by the government of Madhya Pradesh.

Konark Samman, 1993

FAMOUS Marathi poet, Mr Govinda Vinayak Karandikar, has been awarded the 1993 Konark Samman, in recognition of his contribution to literature. The award has been instituted by the Orissa State Council of Culture.

K.K. Birla Foundation awards for sports, 1994

SHOOTING prodigy Jaspal Rana and world women's weightlifting champion Karanam Malleshwari has been selected for the award.

Neerja Bhanot award, 1995

MRS Radhabai of Trichur, Kerala, has been selected for the award. This annual award is given to an Indian woman who is subjected to social injustice and fights it with guts and grit and helps other women in similar distress.

Netaji award for social work

MOTHER Teresa has been presented the first Netaji award for social work. Other recipients of the awards include, R.N. Basu, Vice-Chancellor of Calcutta University, for science and education; Justice K.M. Yusuf for communal harmony and national integration; Sanat Biswas, former Sheriff of Calcutta, for science and technology; Nasir A. Wahid, chairman of East West Airlines, for industrial development; and R.K. Bhatnagar, former press secretary to President of India, for press publicity.

Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award, 1994

INDIA'S ace rowing pair of Cdr Homi D. Motiwala and Lt Cdr P.K. Garg have the distinction of being jointly selected for the third Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award.

Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana award, 1995

MOHAMMAD Yunus, grandson of Frontier Gandhi Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan, has been given the award for his

Jamnalal Bajaj awards, 1995

For outstanding contribution in the field of constructive work: Mr Kashinath Trivedi of Indore.

For application of science and technology for rural development: Mr G. Muniratnam of the Rayalaseema Seva Samithi, Tirupati.

For help to upliftment and welfare of women and children: Mrs Vimla Bahugana of Navjivan Ashram, Silyera, Tehri Garhwal (UP).

For promoting Gandhian values outside India: Mrs Kamala of the Gandhi Memorial Centre, Washington D.C.

contribution to the promotion of peace, communal harmony and in the fight against violence and terrorism.

Sanskriti awards, 1994

For literature: B. Jayamohan, a Tamil writer.

For journalism: Rajdeep Sardesai. He is presently working with New Delhi Television.

For Theatre: Anamika Haksar, a visiting teacher at the National School of Drama.

For Art: Atul Dodiya.

For social and cultural achievement: Dudhatoli Lok Vikas Sansthan, a voluntary organisation working in a remote village in Pauri Garhwal, Uttar Pradesh.

Shankar Puruskar, 1994

WELL-known Sanskrit scholar and litterateur, Prof Vidya Niwas Mishra, has been given the 1994 Shankar Puruskar for his novel *Mahabharat Ka Kavyarth*.

Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar awards, 1995
For mathematical sciences: Dr Rajendra Bhatia of the Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi.

For engineering sciences: Dr Kamanio Chattopadhyay of Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

For earth, atmosphere, ocean and planetary sciences: Dr B.N. Goswami of Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

For Physical Sciences: Dr Mustansir Barma, TIFR, Bombay and Dr B. Sriram

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

Shastri of Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

For Chemical sciences: Dr Chandrasekhar of Indian Institute of Science and Dr K.L. Sebastian of Cochin University.

For Biological Sciences: Dr S.E. Hasnain of National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi and Dr K. Muniyappa of Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

For Medical Sciences: Dr Subrat K. Panda of AIIMS, New Delhi and Dr Anil Tyagi of Delhi University.

Tansen Samman, 1993-94

USTAD Asad Ali Khan, renowned Rudraveena exponent, has been honoured with 1993-94 Tansen Samman, instituted by the Madhya Pradesh government.

Vyas Samman, 1994

DR Dharamvir Bharti, well-known poet, writer and editor, has been honoured with the 1994 Vyas Samman for his collection of poems *Sapna Abhi Bhi*.

INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

Jawahar Lal Nehru Award for International Understanding, 1993

MYANMAR'S pro-democracy leader and Nobel laureate, Mrs Aung San Suu Kyi, has been awarded the coveted Jawahar Lal Nehru award for international understanding for 1993, for her "brave, non-violent and unyielding" struggle for freedom and democracy.

Indira Gandhi Peace Prize, 1994

THE Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development, 1994, has been conferred on Archbishop Reverend Trevor Huddleston of South Africa, for his contribution to the struggle against apartheid.

Magsaysay awards, 1995

For Public service: Ms Asma Jahangir, a Pakistani human rights lawyer for "challenging Pakistan to embrace and uphold the principles of religious tolerance, gender equality and equal protection under the law". Ms Jahangir is the founding secretary-general of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan.

Nobel Prizes 1995

For Literature: Irish poet Seamus Heaney.

For Medicine: Three scientists won the Nobel Prize for medicine: Edward Lewis of the California Institute of Technology; Christiane Nusslein-Volhard of the Max Planck Institute for Developmental Biology in Tuebingen, Germany; and Eric F. Wieschaus of the Princeton University in the United States.

For Economics: American professor Robert E. Lucas of the University of Chicago for his work on how "Rational expectations have transformed macroeconomic analysis and helped understand economic policy".

For Physics: American professors Martin L. Perl of the Stanford University and Frederick Reines of the University of California.

For Peace: Anti-nuclear campaigner Joseph Rotblat and the Pugwash Conference on Science and World Affairs which he chairs, shared the 1995 Nobel Peace Prize. The award was given for their efforts to diminish the part played by nuclear arms in international politics and to eliminate them in the long run.

For Chemistry: US scientists Sherwood Roland of University of California Mario Molina of Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Paul Crutzen of Germany's Max Planck Institute for Chemistry; for their discovery that man-made chemicals can damage the planet's protective ozone layer.

For government service: Gov Morihiro Hiramatsu of Japan's Oita province.

For journalism, literature and creative communication arts: Mr Pramodya Ananta Toes of Indonesia for 14 years of his politically-charged writing. The 70-year-old writer from Java was cited for illuminating with brilliant stories, the historical awakening and modern experience of the Indonesian people.

For community service: Ho Mong-Teh of Taiwan.

For International Understanding: The Manila-based Asian Institute of Management, Asia's leading school for advanced management education, has been named winner of the 1995 Ramon Magsaysay award for international understanding.

The institute was cited for setting regional standards for excellence and relevance in training Asian managers for Asia's business and Asia's management.

Mahatma Gandhi World Peace award, 1995

DR Hogen Fukunaga, a Japanese poet, lecturer and author of more than 70 books has been given the award. Dr Fukunaga announced that the \$ 100,000

award would be used for the upliftment of children of India.

Right Livelihood Award, 1995

THE 1995 Right Livelihood award, often called the alternative Nobel Prize, has been jointly awarded to the Serb Civic Council of Bosnia-Herzegovina, which opposes the separatist regime, Mr Andras Biro and his organisation, the Hungarian Foundation for self-reliance, Mr Silak Sivaraksa of Thailand and Ms Cernel Budiardjo, co-founder of the Indonesian Human Rights organisation.

UN Population Award, 1995

MR Halfdan Mahler of Denmark shares the award with the inter-African committee on traditional practices affecting the health of women and children. Mr Mahler is head of the international planned parenthood federation. The group promotes voluntary family planning and is active in 140 countries.

World Food Prize, 1995

SWISS entomologist Hans R. Herren won the World Food Prize for stopping the crop destroying pest in sub-Saharan Africa.

FILM AWARDS

42nd National Film Awards

Best film: "Unishe April" a Bengali

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film directed by Rituparno Ghosh.

Best director: Jahn timer Barua for his Assamese film "Hagoroloi Bohu Door".

Best Actor: Nana Patekar for his performance in "Krantiveer".

Best Actress: Debasree Roy for her role in "Unishe April".

Best supporting actor: Ashish Vidyarthi for his role in Hindi film "Drohkaal" and Nagesh for his role in Tamil film "Nammavar".

Best supporting actress: Surekha Sikri Rege for her portrayal of the surrogate mother in "Mammo".

Best popular film: "Hum Apke Hain Kaun".

Best child artist: Vijaya Raghavendra.

Best children film: "Abhay" directed by Annu Kapoor and "Kochaniyan" (Malayalam) directed by Bushura Shahudeen, share the prize.

Best music director: Ravi and Johnson share the prize for their scores in "Sukrutham" and "Parinayam", respectively.

Best Lyrics: Vairamuthu for 'Karuthamma' and "Pavithra".

Best male playback singer: Unnikrishnan.

Best female playback singer: Sornalatha.

Indira Gandhi award for best first film of a director: Mogha Mull (Tamil) directed by Gnana Rajasekaran.

Nargis Dutt award for best feature film on national integration: Mukta (Marathi), directed by Jabbar Patel.

Best book on cinema: "Abhinayam Anubhavam" by Bharat Gopy.

Best film critic: Rashmi Doraiswamy.

Best non-feature film: "Rasayatra", a documentary that weaves round the life and music of vocalist Pandit Mallikarjun Mansur.

67th Oscar awards

Best film: Forrest Gump.

Best director: Robert Zemeckis, *Forrest Gump*.

Best actor: Tom Hanks, *Forrest Gump*.

Best actress: Jessica Lange, *Blue Sky*.

Best supporting actor: Martin Landau, *Ed Wood*.

Best supporting actress: Dianna Wiest, *Bullets Over Broadway*.

Best foreign language film: *Burnt by the Sun* (Russia).

Jean Hersholt Humanitarian award: Quincy Jones.

Irving Thalberg Memorial award: Clint Eastwood.

Honorary award for lifetime achievement: Michelangelo Antonini.

BOOKS

Alien Nation

AUTHORED by Mr Peter Brimelow, a senior editor with Forbes, the book says that the US government should stop further immigration into the US by non-whites, who are "destroying the American nation". Mr Brimelow warns fellow whites that the result of continued Asian, African and Latin American immigration at the current level will be "the snuffing out of the American nation—like a candle in a gale".

Call the Briefing

WRITTEN by the former US Press Secretary, Mr Martin Fitzwater, the book tells tales of aides of former US Presidents, Mr Ronald Reagan and Mr George Bush. It exposes infighting among White House Cabinet members.

For the President's Eyes only

AUTHORED by Prof Christopher Andrew of Cambridge University the book claims the technical means, such as spy satellites, eavesdropping devices etc, available with USA give it the capacity to listen to the conversations of foreign leaders. The author claims that US spied on all foreign leaders, irrespective of which country they belonged to.

Future of NPT, The

THIS book has been written by Dr Savita Pande, a research officer with the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (DSA), New Delhi. According to the book the five-member "nuclear club" is among the worst violators of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty even while preaching non-proliferation to the rest of the world. The book recommends that the "flawed" NPT should be dumped altogether.

Lal Bahadur Shastri

BIOGRAPHY of India's Prime Minister by C.P. Srivastava, his closest and trusted aide. Gives an unpublished account of Shastri's conversations with Ayub Khan and Soviet Prime Minister Alexei Kosygin.

Mass Media and Marketing

Communication: Perspectives unto 2020

WRITTEN by Mr N. Bhaskara Rao, a communications and media expert, this book predicts the cash-rich telecommunication companies will attempt to "hijack" the mass media by the second half of 2010, while the annual growth of newspapers will fall to less than 10 per cent.

The Moor's Last Sigh

WRITTEN by Salman Rushdie and set in Bombay, it is a sequel to *Midnight's Children*. It lampoons Bal Thackeray and hence is not being distributed in Bombay by the publishers.

North

THIS book is a collection of poems written by the 1995 Nobel Prize for literature winner, Mr Seamus Heaney. In this book and in another, called "The Haw Lantern", Heaney has spoken out as an Irish Catholic about violence in the British-ruled northern Island.

Physics in Ancient India

WRITTEN by Mr Narayan Gopal Dongre, the book claims that scientific knowledge gained by the world over the last 300 years could have been gifted to mankind, one and a half millenia ago, if only Indian sages had chosen to experiment with mathematical models.

Rukh Te Rishi

WRITTEN by Dr Harbhajan Singh, winner of the 1994 *Saraswati Samman*, in self-narrative and philosophical style, the book touches Indian society's ancient roots. The book is written in Punjabi.

Tigers of Lanka—From Boys to Guerillas

THIS book has been written by Mr L.M.R. Narayan Swamy, a journalist by profession. The book has alleged that the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW), the intelligence agency of India, had failed to

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revent the systematic liquidation of pro-India Tamil groups in Sri Lanka, by LTTE, as at that time RAW's operation in the island were controlled by an alleged CIA agent.

War in the Indian Ocean

THIS book, written by Vice Admiral Mihir K. Roy, gives a hitherto untold account of the 1971 war with Pakistan. As Chief of Intelligence, Roy had a ringside view of the war and contains a hair-raising account of the sinking of the *Ghazi*.

CONSTITUTION

1st Amendment Bill, 1994

THE Bill seeks to place land reform laws in States of Bihar, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal under the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution. Land laws included in the Ninth Schedule cannot be challenged in courts.

Amendment to sixth schedule

THE Rajya Sabha passed the Bill seeking to amend the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution, to provide greater autonomy to the two autonomous district councils in Assam-Karbi-Anglong and North Cachar Hills.

6th Amendment Bill

BOTH Houses of the Parliament have passed the Constitution (86th Amendment) Bill to facilitate reservation of seats or promotions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees in the government.

DAYS; YEARS

Sports Day

GOVERNMENT of India has decided to declare August 29 as the Sports Day every year. August 29 is the birthday of late Major Dhyan Chand, the great hockey wizard.

International Day for preservation of the Ozone layer

THE UN General Assembly proclaimed September 16 as the International day for preservation of the ozone layer. September 16, 1995 also marked the 10th anniversary of the signing of the Vienna convention for the protection of the ozone

layer.

DEFENCE

Nishant—Battlefield Surveillance Vehicle

THE high-priority battlefield surveillance vehicle, *Nishant*, is expected to be inducted into the Indian army by the end of 1996. The Remotely Piloted Vehicle (RPV) has come out successfully in the flight trials.

Built by the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), *Nishant* is meant for battlefield surveillance and reconnaissance for the Army. It incorporates advanced design features which are comparable or superior to RPVs elsewhere in the world. Except for the engine, which is imported, the rest of the vehicle is indigenously designed and developed.

ASCON dedicated to the nation

ON August 17, 1995, Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao dedicated to the nation the Rs 100-crore indigenously developed state-of-the-art communication system ASCON (Army Switched Communication Network). The network is expected to give the Indian army an added edge in communication among its different units.

Target detection device developed

THE Central Research Laboratory (CRL) of the Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore, has successfully developed a video extractor subsystem for ship borne surveillance radars, to help automatic detection of targets.

The VE subsystem draws the inputs received by the surveillance radars, extracts in real time the salient parameters and features of the targets, before sending to the computers of a battle ship for further processing to eliminate unwanted targets.

INS Vidyut commissioned

THE indigenously manufactured "killer class" missile boat, *INS Vidyut*, was commissioned into the Indian Navy on January 17, 1995.

INS Vidyut is the second missile boat of its class to be manufactured by the Mormugao shipyard. It is equipped with

state-of-the-art electronics and sensors and is armed with surface-to-surface and surface-to-air missiles.

Trials of 'Akash' successful

THE control and propulsion flight trials of the medium range surface-to-air missile *Akash*, often described as the Indian version of the US anti-ballistic tool, *Patriot*, were successfully carried at the interim test range at Chandipur-on-Sea, in Orissa, on April 21, 1995.

Akash is part of the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP) of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

Akash has a range of 25 km and can carry 55 kg warhead. It would replace the Russian SAM missiles, now available with India.

India has developed stealth technology

INDIA has on its own developed stealth technology which makes planes less visible or even invisible to the radar. This technology was hitherto regarded as the prized secret of the US Air Force.

The technology involves applying a secret coating 'retrofit' to the planes.

According to the journal, Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) is retrofitting two squadrons of Jaguar ground attack aircraft. The Mirage 2000-H and the MiG would be the next aircraft to undergo stealth treatment.

The stealth coating was developed by the Composite Material Research Laboratory, Hyderabad.

EXPEDITIONS

Expeditions to Antarctica have benefited India

THE 14 expeditions to Antarctica have provided India with a series of valuable benefits, besides establishing the lithological correlation between peninsular India and Antarctica as part of Gondwanaland reconstruction. An analysis of the research findings of these expeditions showed that India benefited in forecasting its monsoons and in developing human adaptations in the higher reaches of the Himalayas, like Siachen. Cold temperature technology and long distance communication could be indigenised.

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Himalayan ski expedition

THE first-ever ski-Himalayan expedition returned after discovering three passes on a 3,000 km record odyssey through snow-covered terrains, where no man had set foot before.

The eight-member team had started on February 17, 1995, from Karakorum Pass (5606 metre), an old central Asian trade route leading to Yarkand and Kashnagar.

During the journey of 12 days, from Tso Moriri lake, in Ladakh to Kibber in the Spiti valley, the expedition could not locate a single human being except one family of Chongpas, who could not communicate with the team.

The expedition was led by Major Harish Kohli and was sponsored by the Indian Army, Air India and Indian Airlines.

Balloon Expedition

A 26-member hot air balloon expedition was flagged off by Lt Gen V.K. Kapoor, Director General of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (EME) from Ladakh. It was organised under the army's ambitious venture, Mega Himex.

The expedition will study the ecology of the northern portion of the coun-

try, ranging from J & K, Himachal, UP, right upto Assam. Maj M.K. Yadav is the leader while Captain V. Paranjpe is its deputy leader.

NUCLEAR ENERGY

Kakrapar Unit-2 goes critical

THE Kakrapar Atomic Power Station (KAPS) Unit-2, situated near Surat in Gujarat, went critical on January 8, 1995. The commercial generation will start in about three months time, after the unit is synchronised to the western grid.

With KAPS-2 going critical, the number of operating reactors in India has gone up to ten. KAPS-2 is the eighth in the series of Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) in India.

PERSONS

Birla, Aditya Vikram

MR Aditya Birla, a scion of the Birla clan and heading an eight thousand crore industrial empire, died on October 1, 1995 at the age of 51.

Chandrasekhar, Dr Subrahmanyan

DR Chandrasekhar, Indian-born US scientist, whose ground-breaking theories on astrophysics won him the Nobel Prize in 1983, died on August 22, 1995, at the age of 84.

He studied the death throes of stars as their fuel is exhausted, calculating the Chandrasekhar limit (1.44 times the sun's mass), beyond which a collapsing star becomes a neutron star or continues to compress indefinitely.

Choudhury, Salil

THE World of Indian music lost one of its living legends in the death of Salil Choudhury on September 6, 1995. For over 50 years Salil Choudhury straddled the Bengali and Hindi music scenes like of colossus, by virtue of his originality and constant experimentation in his lyrics as well as compositions.

Christiane, Nueslein-Volhard

GERMAN scientist at the Max Planck Institute for Developmental Biology in Tuebingen, Germany, he was in the news for being co-winner of the 1995 Nobel Prize for Medicine.

Crutzen, Paul

GERMAN scientist at the Max Planck Institute for Chemistry. He is the co-winner of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry.

Devi, Ashapurna

NOTED Bengali litterateur, Ashapurna Devi died on July 13, 1995. She was the first woman to be awarded the prestigious Jnanpith award in 1976.

Heaney, Seamus

IRISH poet, Seamus Heaney, is the winner of the 1995 Nobel Prize for literature. According to the citation his works had "lyrical beauty and ethical depth, which exalt everyday miracles and the living past". He is a poet, essayist and translator.

Kaka Hathrasi

THE famous Hindi poet of humour, Kaka Hathrasi, died on September 18, 1995. Incidentally September 18 was his birthday. He was 90.

Kaka, who wrote over 150 books of humour poetry, won much acclaim for his *Kaka Ke Kartoos* (Bullets of Kaka). He was honoured in 1985 with *Padamshree* award.

Kumar, Dilip

LEGENDRY film star, he has been honoured with the 1994 Dada Saheb Phalke award. 72-year-old Dilip Kumar (real name Yousuf Khan) has held generations of Indian film audiences under his spell with sterling performances as a "tragedy king" and as in variety of other roles.

Lewis, Edward

HE is one of winners of the 1995 Nobel Prize for medicine. He belongs to the Institute of Technology, California, USA. The award has been given to him for his work on genetic mechanisms which control early embryonic development.

Lucas, Robert

THE US economist, Mr Robert Lucas, has been awarded the 1995 Nobel Prize for economics for transforming understanding of how economic policy affects people's expectations.

Mr Lucas is a professor at the University of Chicago. His work has brought about "a rapid and revolu-

DISCOVERY

3,000-year-old civilisation unearthed

Four different cultural periods, dating as far back as the 3rd century BC, have come to light following recent excavations in Vaishali, the place credited with being the seat of the world's first republic.

The excavations, conducted by the K.P. Jayaswal Research Institute, Patna, have given enough evidence of the existence of an urban civilisation along the Gandak basin. A variety of items indicating the presence of continuous human settlement for the last 3,000 years were recovered at Ramachaura near Hajipur, district headquarters of Vaishali.

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tionary development in application of the rational expectations, hypothesis, emergence of an equilibrium theory of business cycles and insights into the difficulties of using economic policy with statistical methods".

Molina, Mario

US scientist belonging to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is one of the winners of the 1995 Nobel Prize for Chemistry.

Perl, Martin L.

MR Martin L. Perl of USA is the winner of the 1995 Nobel Prize for physics for the discovery of a sub-atomic particle known as the Tan Lepton. He shared the award with co-American Frederick Reines.

Preston, Lewis

LEWIS Preston was the President of World Bank since 1991. He died on May 4, 1995 at the age of 68.

Mr Preston was responsible for making poverty alleviation as the over-arching goal of the Bank and redirected the Bank group lending towards human resources development. He was also instrumental in linking the World Bank lending to actual performance and implementation of projects.

Rabin, Yitzhak

YITZHAK Rabin, the 73-year-old Prime Minister of Israel, hailed for his moves towards peace with the Arabs, was assassinated by a young Jewish law student on November 5, 1995, at a rally in Tel Aviv. He was the first Israeli Prime Minister to be assassinated since the creation of the country in 1948.

Reines, Frederick

FREDERICK Reines of the University of California shares the 1995 Nobel Prize for physics for the detection of the neutrino—a work that he started in 1950s.

Rotblat, Joseph

ANTI-nuclear campaigner, Polish-born British scientist, Joseph Rotblat has won the 1995 Nobel Peace prize. He shared the award with the Pugwash Conference on Science and World Affairs, which he chairs.

The Pugwash Conference was started

in 1955 by Rotblat and ten other scientists—10 years after the dropping of two atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki—to recognise the responsibility of scientists for their inventions.

Rowland, Sherwood

US Scientist belonging to the University of California. He was in the news for winning the 1995 Nobel Prize for Chemistry along with two other scientists.

Singh, Beant

BEANT Singh, Chief Minister of Punjab, the man credited with wiping out militancy from Punjab, was assassinated on August 31, 1995 in a bomb blast in Chandigarh.

He was born on February 19, 1922 in village Bilaspur of Ludhiana district in Punjab. He graduated from the prestigious Government College, Lahore. He had a two-year stint in the army before jumping into the political arena in 1950. In February 1992 he took over as the 13th Chief Minister of Punjab.

Suu Kyi, Mrs Aung San

MRS Aung San Suu Kyi is the pro-democracy leader of Myanmar. She has been under house arrest for the past six years. Recently she has been awarded the coveted Jawahar Lal Nehru award for international understanding, 1993. She is the 29th recipient of the award.

Wieschaus, Eric F.

A professor at the Princeton University, USA, he shares the 1995 Nobel Prize for medicine for his work on genetic mechanisms.

Wolfensohn, James D.

61-year-old James D. Wolfensohn has taken over as the President of the World Bank. He is a born Australian but is now a naturalised American citizen with his own New York-based investment bank. He is known as a man of strong will, impeccable taste and keen mind.

PLACES

Palau

PALAU, till recently a trust territory administered by the United States, has

become the 185th member of the United Nations.

Palau has a population of slightly over 15,000 and comprises of 200 islands in the Caroline chain in the Pacific, of which only eight are permanently inhabited. Most of the population lives in the capital of Koror.

Maharashtra

MAHARASHTRA has completed 35 years of progressive existence. Over the years, it has graduated as one of the most industrialised States in India, fulfilling the aims of those who laid down their lives for its formation.

The bilingual State of Bombay, comprising present day Maharashtra and Gujarat, was formed on November 1, 1956 on the recommendations of the Fazal Ali Commission report, with Bombay as its capital and Morarji Desai as its Chief Minister.

The State, which has a rich historical and cultural heritage, a stable and strong political base and an efficient government machinery, continues to occupy a prominent position in various fields. It is also progressive as regards social reforms and cosmopolitan character.

Ralegan Siddhi

ONCE a village with acute water shortage, today it is a model for not only Maharashtra but the whole country, with enough water for drinking and irrigation, enough foodgrains, reasonably good horticulture and greenery all around.

It has given a lead to other villages in watershed development, soil conservation and afforestation, and all without any monetary help from the government or any other agency.

What started as a small step became a movement with the whole village rallying behind Hajare, better known as Annasaheb Hajare. And the fruits have reached all households.

Vijayanagar

PERCHED at an altitude of 1260 metres above sea level, the 500 sq km table-like land of Vijayanagar in Chamlang district of Arunachal Pradesh has become a dreamland. Deposits of gold, gas, oil, plati-

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num, semi-precious stones and jade have been reported by the Geological Survey of India.

Once dubbed as "forgotten land" it is now humming with activity with the State government's Mineral Trade Corporation Limited, the Oil India Limited and Coal India Limited putting up camps

Wayanad

WAYANAD is an underdeveloped district of Kerala, situated on the western side of the Sahya mountains bordering Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. About 35 per cent of Kerala's scheduled tribes live in this place.

There is evidence that organised human life existed at Wayanad at least 10 centuries before Christ, especially at the Edakkal caves.

PROJECTS

13th Oil Refinery of India

THE 13th oil refinery of India, set-up by the Madras Refineries Limited, was dedicated to the nation on February 15, 1995. The Rs 159-crore refinery is situated at Panangudi in Tamil Nadu. It has a capacity to refine 5 million tonne of crude from the nearby oil wells in the Cauvery basin. The refinery has been commissioned in a record 30-month period.

IB-Valley project dedicated to the nation
ON April 29, 1995, Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao dedicated to the nation the Rs 933-crore first unit of the 210

MW IB valley thermal power project. The project is located at Banharpalli in Orissa. "Paperless trading" in three metros

soon

ELECTRONIC Data Interchange (EDI) facility, known as paperless trading, will very soon be available to exporters and importers in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. An EDI pilot project is already operational in Delhi since January 25, 1995

Indo-Gulf power project cleared minus guarantees

THE Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the proposal of Indo-Gulf Fertiliser and Chemical Corporation for setting up the Rosa Thermal Power Station. The highlight of this project is that it will not offer counter-guarantees to the foreign collaborators.

First power plant from vegetable wastes

INDIA'S first power plant to generate power exclusively from vegetable waste is to be located at Madras. The power plant forms part of a UNDP-assisted programme of the Union Ministry of Non-conventional Energy.

The Rs 2.85 crore project will use the vegetable waste from the massive vegetable wholesale complex that has been designed by the Madras Metropolitan Development Authority (MMDA) at Koyambedu. It has been designed to consume around 30 tonnes of vegetable waste per day, against the 80 tonnes per day waste that the Koyambedu complex is expected to generate.

RESEARCH

Indian scientists to study magnetic field

SCIENTISTS at the Indian Institute of Geomagnetism (IIG), Bombay, would take an active role in the global mission of understanding the origins of the earth's magnetic field and its interaction with the solar wind.

India has a chain of 14 ground magnetic observatories, spanning the region from the equator to above, the focus of the current system. IIG operates 10 of these stations, including the "intermagnet" sta-

US Shuttle docks with Mir

The US space shuttle, *Atlantis*, blasted into orbit on June 27, 1995 with a US-Russian crew of seven, on the first shuttle-docking mission with Russia's space station, *Mir*.

Atlantis spent nearly two days catching up to *Mir* and docked with the space station on June 29, 1995, unting the two former cold war adversaries in a new era of cooperation.

The two craft docked with each other at a speed of 28,000 kmph, 395 km above earth.

Atlantis remained docked at *Mir* for almost five days, during which crews aboard both spacecraft conducted joint life sciences research experiments.

tion at Alibag, near Bombay.

SPACE RESEARCH

Ulysses flies near sun's north pole

THE *Ulysses* spacecraft flew near the top of the sun on July 31, 1995, reaching the northern-most point of its solar voyage. The voyage had begun five years and more than 1.6 billion km ago. It was launched from the US space shuttle, *Discovery*, on October 6, 1990.

Pact between ISRO, INTELSAT

IN a landmark agreement, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has leased eleven transponders, on the yet-to-be launched INSAT-2E, to the Washington-based INTELSAT. The long-term agreement will fetch ISRO a mind-boggling \$ 100 million over a period of ten years. It also marks a significant boost to ISRO's attempts at commercialising its operations.

India signs ten-year space pact

INDIA'S Antrix Corporation Limited, commercial arm of the Indian Department of Space, has signed a 10-year agreement with the Earth Observation Satellite, an American company, popularly known as Eosat, which will yield over a billion dollars in commercial revenue for the world-wide remote sensing

Chola capital existed: Study

It is no longer a myth that the coastal town of Poompuhar, also called Kaveripattinam, in southern Tamil Nadu, was the capital of early Cholas. The archaeologists have now found evidence of the existence of this ancient city.

Tamil Nadu Archaeological Department, engaged in related explorations for over 30 years, has unearthed six trenches with structures of Sangam age, firmly established it as the same lost city, described as the pride of Chola dynasty.

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industry. It will also create new business opportunities for the remote-sensing industry.

Brightest comet sighted

TWO amateur US astronomers have discovered what could be the brightest comet to pass earth in twenty years. Experts have described the finding as the most distant comet ever discovered by amateurs.

The comet has been dubbed as Hale-Bopp, after its finders Alan Hale and Thomas Bopp. It is expected to be visible to the naked eye when it passes earth, in late December, 1996, about 120 million km away.

MISCELLANY

VSNL kicks off internet service

THE Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd (VSNL) started the gateway internet access service from August 14, 1995, in association with the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd (MTNL), for users all over India. For the purpose of providing access to users VSNL has set up a countrywide network.

Users can access the VSNL service by dialling in through a telephone leased line of the I-Net access. A range of access speeds and service types is available.

Radio paging: Changing the way people communicate

Communications has taken a new turn in India with All India Radio (AIR) launching country's first Radio Data Servicing (RDS) pagers in seventeen selected cities. Paging service has also been started by several private operators in several major cities of India.

A one-way communication, paging is useful for people on the move who have to be in constant touch with headquarters.

All that a calling party has to do is ring up a paging operator in the city. The message is then formatted, encoded and transmitted to be picked up by the individual's pager.

DNA fingerprint centre to be set up in Hyderabad

AN autonomous Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics (CDFD) is being set up in Hyderabad by utilising the expertise developed at the city-based Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB).

Weather radar system to be developed

INDIAN Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and India Meteorological Department (IMD) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on September 13, 1995, for the indigenous design and development of a Doppler Weather Radar (DWR) system.

Indians win 4 medals at Maths Olympiad

THE Indian team has won four medals, two silver and two bronze at International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO), 1995.

The Chinese team was placed first in the competition, with four gold and two silver medals. Romania and Russia also got four golds and two silver medals and were placed second and third on the basis of the total scores of their respective teams.

The Olympiad was held at York University in Toronto, Canada.

The Indian team was placed 14th with a total score of 165 out of a maximum score of 262. Canada, the host country, was placed behind India.

World's highest rail bridge

JAMMU and Kashmir will very soon have the world's highest railway bridge. The bridge will be constructed across the river Chenab along Jammu-Srinagar railway line at Salal area. It would be 290 metres high from the ground and would be about three-time taller than the 81 m high Qutab Minar. This railway bridge would be marvel of the civil engineering construction. The bridge's length would be 700 m and it will be a part of Udhampur-Qazigunj railway line, which would link Kashmir Valley with the rest of the country through railways.

The Tablet—newspaper of tomorrow

AT first glance it looks like an unpretentious flat piece of grey plastic. But,

First Cyber Cafe in India ...

Hotel Leela Kempinski in Bombay has introduced a 'Cyber Cafe', the first of its kind in India. Customers can not only have tea and snacks here but also surf the information highway of the Internet. This is the fifth cyber cafe in the world and second in Asia. The earlier four such cafes are located at New York, London, Vienna and Singapore.

...and the First Cyberclub

India's first cyberclub opened at the Welcomegroup hotel hotel Maurya Sheraton at New Delhi. It will offer a wide range of multimedia entertainment and information and allow resident guests to browse and surf the Net.

according to Roger Fidler, "this is the newspaper of the future. The age of newspaper and paper is past".

The "tablet", as 52-year-old Fidler calls his invention, weighs just under a kg and is two centimetres thick. It is about as big as a foolscap page and looks just like a normal newspaper.

But touch the LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) screen once and the "front page" comes to life. Subsequent touches produce video clips, graphics, analyses and the rest of the newspaper.

Sealed cases to Preserve Original Constitution

INDIA'S original Constitution on parchment paper, which was signed by the founding fathers on January 26, 1950, will be kept in two hermetically sealed cases so that they remain free and safe from the ravages of time.

A protective vault-like room is being built in the Parliament annexe for display and storage of the documents in two sealed cases, one for English and the other for its Hindi translation. The cases have been tested successfully for the past one year.

The Constitution of India consists of two bound calligraphic volumes. The English version contains 233 sheets of

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hand-made parchment paper made by the calligrapher Prem Bihari Narain Raizada. It was illustrated by the artist Nand Lal Bose. The Hindi document is made up of 264 sheets of hand-made parchment paper, handwritten and illustrated by Basantrao Vaidya.

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On an average, 66 solar eclipses occur in a century. But not all of them are visible in India. A total eclipse was last seen in India on February 16, 1980.

A total solar eclipse occurs with the interposition of the dark body of the moon between the earth and the sun. When this happens the shadow of the

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Stages of the Eclipse

Baileys beads: Seen seconds before or after totality. It is caused by sunlight peeping through shallow valleys at the edge of the moon's disc.

Diamond Ring: Momentary flash before or after totality. It is caused by sun-light peeping through a single large valley at the edge of moon's disc.

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HISTORY

1. The great Bath of Indus Valley Civilisation belonged to:
 - (a) Kalibangan
 - (b) Harappa
 - (c) Mohenjodaro
 - (d) Ropar
2. The first Buddhist Council was held at:
 - (a) Pataliputra
 - (b) Rajagriha
 - (c) Ujjain
 - (d) Kashmir
3. Portrait-bearing coins became popular under the:
 - (a) Mauryas
 - (b) Guptas
 - (c) Kushans
 - (d) Indo-Bactrians
4. Nalanda University was a great centre of learning especially during:
 - (a) Buddhism
 - (b) Jainism
 - (c) Vaishnavism
 - (d) Tantricism
5. Who is the author of "Harsha Charita"?
 - (a) Bana Bhatt
 - (b) Harshavardhana
 - (c) Kalidas
 - (d) Jaidev
6. The famous bronze image of Nataraja is a fine example of:
 - (a) Chola art
 - (b) Gandharva art
 - (c) Gupta art
 - (d) Mauryan art
7. The first battle of Panipat was fought between Babar and:
 - (a) Sikandar Lodhi
 - (b) Ibrahim Lodhi
 - (c) Rana Sanga
 - (d) Daulat Khan Lodhi
8. In introducing revenue reforms, Akbar was helped by:
 - (a) Bairam Khan
 - (b) Abul Fazal
 - (c) Man Singh
 - (d) Todar Mal
9. The first and the only Muslim Lady who had ever ruled from the throne of Delhi was:
 - (a) Chand Bibi
 - (b) Jahanara
 - (c) Nurjahan
 - (d) Razia Begum
10. The British East India Company established its first factory in India at:
 - (a) Madras
 - (b) Surat
 - (c) Calcutta
 - (d) Bombay
11. In the Vedic society the term *vish* denoted:
 - (a) an assembly
 - (b) a group of families
 - (c) a tribe
 - (d) a coin
12. The last Mauryan ruler was overthrown by:
 - (a) Agnimitra
 - (b) Pushyamitra
 - (c) Mahapadma Nanda
 - (d) Kharavela
13. *Hijira* is reckoned from:
 - (a) A.D. 78
 - (b) A.D. 600
 - (c) A.D. 622
 - (d) A.D. 712
14. The Rajput Clan of Solankis rose to power in:
 - (a) Kanauj
 - (b) Kathiawar
 - (c) Malwa
 - (d) Kashmir
15. *Ibadat Khana* where Akbar held discussions on religious matters is a building at:
 - (a) Agra
 - (b) Sikandra
 - (c) Fatehpur Sikri
 - (d) Delhi
16. The system of Subsidiary Alliance was introduced by:
 - (a) Robert Clive
 - (b) Warren Hastings
 - (c) Wellesley
 - (d) Dalhousie
17. Which one of the following is correctly matched?
 - (a) Brahmo Samaj : Jyotibha Phule
 - (b) Prarthana Samaj : Dayanand
 - (c) Sri Narayana Dharma Paripalana Yogam : Narayana Guru
 - (d) Satya Shodhak
18. The Civil Disobedience Movement was led in the North-West Frontier Province by:
 - (a) Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan
 - (b) Dr M.A. Ansari
 - (c) Shaikh Mohammad Abdullah
 - (d) Sewa Singh Thikriwala
19. Gandhiji started Satyagraha against the maltreatment of Indians in:
 - (a) England
 - (b) USA
 - (c) South Africa
 - (d) France
20. The first split in the Congress took place in 1907 at:
 - (a) Calcutta
 - (b) Meerut
 - (c) Allahabad
 - (d) Surat
21. The freedom fighter who died in jail due to hunger strike was:
 - (a) Bhagat Singh
 - (b) B.G. Tilak
 - (c) Jatin Das
 - (d) Bipin Chandra Pal
22. Who amongst the following started the first newspaper in India?
 - (a) Rabindra Nath Tagore
 - (b) Dadabhai Naoroji
 - (c) James A. Hickey
 - (d) Sir Syed Ahmad Khan
23. The first session of the Indian National Congress was held at:
 - (a) Lahore
 - (b) Bombay
 - (c) Baroda
 - (d) Madras
24. The Indus valley civilization existed around:
 - (a) 3000 B.C.
 - (b) 2500 B.C.
 - (c) 1700 B.C.
 - (d) 500 B.C.
25. Who was the Prime Minister of Britain when India got independence?
 - (a) Winston Churchill
 - (b) Clement Attlee
 - (c) Harold Wilson
 - (d) Anthony Eden
26. Who started the Home Rule movement?
 - (a) Lokmanya Tilak
 - (b) Mahatma Gandhi
 - (c) Jawaharlal Nehru
 - (d) Annie Besant
27. Rabindranath Tagore renounced the knighthood in 1919 as a protest against:
 - (a) mob violence that took place
 - (b) Jallianwala Bagh massacre
 - (c) racial violence between Hindus and Muslims
 - (d) British refusing to grant independence to India
28. The last Mughal emperor, Bahadur Shah Zafar was exiled by British to:
 - (a) Andaman
 - (b) Lakshadweep
 - (c) Burma
 - (d) England
29. Who were the first Muslim invaders of India?
 - (a) Turks
 - (b) Mongols
 - (c) Arabs
 - (d) Mughals
30. In the battle of Haldighati Akbar defeated:
 - (a) Rana Sanga
 - (b) Jai Singh
 - (c) Rana Pratap
 - (d) Uday Singh
31. Goa was first colonised by:
 - (a) British
 - (b) French
 - (c) Dutch
 - (d) Portuguese
32. A resolution asking for complete independence of India was passed in the session of the Indian National Congress held at:
 - (a) Calcutta
 - (b) Bombay
 - (c) Surat
 - (d) Lahore
- (c) None of these

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33. Battle of Plassey was fought in:
 (a) 1557 (b) 1657
 (c) 1757 (d) 1858
 (e) None of these
34. When was Delhi made the capital of British rule in India?
 (a) 1877 (b) 1889
 (c) 1901 (d) 1911
35. Who introduced English education in India?
 (a) Warren Hastings (b) Lord Dalhousie
 (c) Lord William Bentinck (d) Lord Curzon
36. The policy of "Subsidiary alliance" was adopted by:
 (a) Lord William Bentinck (b) Lord Cornwallis
 (c) Lord Dalhousie (d) Lord Wellesley
37. Who started the Quit India movement?
 (a) C.R. Das (b) Dadabhai Naoroji
 (c) Jawahar Lal Nehru (d) M.K. Gandhi
38. Who was the first President of the Indian National Congress?
 (a) A.O. Hume (b) Dadabhai Naoroji
 (c) W.C. Bonnerji (d) J.C. Bose
39. Name the person who demarcated the India-Pakistan boundary?
 (a) Lord Mountbatten (b) Radcliffe
 (c) Winston Churchill (d) Lord Wavell
40. Who was the first Governor General of free India?
 (a) Louis Mountbatten (b) Dr Rajendra Prasad
 (c) C. Rajagopalachari (d) W. Bentinck
41. Gandhi-Irwin pact was declared in:
 (a) 1934 (b) 1929
 (c) 1930 (d) 1942
42. Columbus discovered America in the year:
 (a) 1492 (b) 1498
 (c) 1496 (d) 1514
43. Constitution of India came into force from:
 (a) 15th August 1947 (b) 26th January 1948
 (c) 15th August 1949 (d) 26th January 1950
44. Tulsidas lived during the reign of:
 (a) Shah Jehan (b) Jehangir
 (c) Aurangzeb (d) Humayun
45. America got its independence in the year:
 (a) 1785 (b) 1776
 (c) 1770 (d) 1876
46. The Ajanta caves, situated in Maharashtra, were built during the:
 (a) Gupta period (b) Maurya period
 (c) Kushan period (d) Mughal period
47. The leader who left politics, retired to Pondicherry and set up an 'ashram' there was:
 (a) Bipin Chandra Pal (b) Aurobindo Ghosh
 (c) Lokmanya Tilak (d) Bhikaji Gama
48. What form of Satyagraha did Dandi March signify?
 (a) Non-cooperation (b) Civil Disobedience
 (c) Individual Satyagraha (d) None of these
49. What was the main cause of the 1857 revolution in India?
 (a) introduction of greased cartridges containing fat of cows and pigs.
 (b) killing of an Indian soldier by British
 (c) abolishment of titles and pensions of Indian rulers
 (d) mistreatment of British soldiers with Indian women
50. Which one of the following is correctly matched?
 (a) Muslim League—Jawaharlal Nehru
 (b) Swaraj Party—Bal Gangadhar Tilak
 (c) Ramakrishna Mission—Swami Dayanand Saraswati
 (d) Brahmo Samaj—Gopal Krishna Gokhale
 (e) None of these
51. Mahayana and Hinayana are the two divisions of:
 (a) Jainism (b) Buddhism
 (c) Hinduism (d) Christianity
52. Who introduced the Permanent Settlement in Bengal?
 (a) Lord Cornwallis (b) Lord Curzon
 (c) Lord Dalhousie (d) Lord Wellington
53. Who among the following collected and paid land revenue to the government under the system of Permanent Settlement during the British rule?
 (a) ryots (b) zamindars
 (c) karnams (d) village headmen
54. After which of the following battles the Muslim rule was established in India?
 (a) Battle of Tarain (b) Battle of Kalinga
 (c) Battle of Kanwah (d) Battle of Talikota
55. In which year was the Tashkent Pact signed between India and Pakistan?
 (a) 1964 (b) 1965
 (c) 1966 (d) 1967
56. Which of the following is not included in the Tri-ratnas of Mahavir, the founder of Jainism?
 (a) right belief (b) right cognition
 (c) right conduct (d) right living
57. Indian National Congress held its first session at:
 (a) Calcutta (b) Madras
 (c) Bombay (d) Poona
58. Name the scholar who visited India along with Mahmud Ghazni:
 (a) Ibn-Batutah (b) Al-Beruni
 (c) Al-Firdausi (d) Al-Razi
59. "Vande Mataram" was first published in:
 (a) 'Kesari' (b) 'Gitanjali'
 (c) 'Harijan' (d) 'Anandmath'
60. The Rathas at Mahabalipuram are:
 (a) Square or rectangular
 (b) Monolithic structures
 (c) Eight in number (d) All the above
61. Which of the following statements is NOT closer to the truth?
 (a) The Rig Vedic family comprised parents and other kith and kin apart from the husband and wife
 (b) The Rig Vedic women were highly respected and that most of the religious ceremonies were considered incomplete unless wives joined their husbands
 (c) The Rig Vedic Aryans were by and large urban people
 (d) The Rig Vedic people worshipped nature
62. Chandragupta Maurya's empire extended in the North-West up to:
 (a) Sulej (b) Hindukush
 (c) Indus (d) Ravi
63. The Great Scholar, Banabhatta, lived during the reign of:
 (a) Kanishka (b) Ashoka
 (c) Chandragupta II (d) Harshavardhana
64. Abdur Razzaq, a Persian traveller, visited Vijayanagar during the reign of:
 (a) Bukka (b) Harihara II
 (c) Deva Raya II (d) Deva Raya I
65. Which of the following Mughal emperor's tomb is outside India?
 (a) Akbar (b) Aurangzeb
 (c) Shah Jahan (d) Bahadur Shah
66. The deputation of Muslim leaders to the Viceroy, Lord Minto II seeking separate electorate was headed by:
 (a) Sir Syed Ahmad Khan (b) Agha Khan
 (c) M.A. Jinnah (d) Maulana Shaukat Ali
67. 'Poona Pact' (1932) was signed between Mahatma Gandhi and the:

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- (a) Extremist leaders (b) Harijan leaders
(c) Communist leaders (d) British Government
68. Which one of the following is the earliest school of Indian philosophy?
(a) Samkhya (b) Yoga
(c) Vaisheshika (d) Karma mimamsa
69. Who were the first to establish trade links with India?
(a) English (b) Portuguese
(c) Dutch (d) French
70. Who was the head of the committee formed by the government to enquire into the Jallianwallah Bagh massacre?
(a) O. Dyer (b) General Dyer
(c) John Simon (d) Hunter
71. Which of the following movements truly reflected the spirit of Hindu-Muslim unity?
(a) Swadeshi Movement
(b) Civil Disobedience Movement
(c) Quit India Movement (d) Khilafat Movement
72. Who was the Congress President when India became free?
(a) Mahatma Gandhi (b) Jawaharlal Nehru
(c) Sardar Patel (d) J.B. Kripalani
73. Exposing the exploitive nature of the British rule in India resulting in the poverty of the Indians, the 'Drain' theory was pioneered by:
(a) C.Y. Chintamani (b) G.K. Gokhale
(c) Dadabhai Naoroji (d) Lala Lajpat Rai
74. What did Gandhiji do to practise the ideals of truth and non-violence in 1916?
(a) He joined the Indian National Congress
(b) He founded Sabarmati Ashram near Ahmedabad
(c) He founded the Gujarat Vidyapeeth
(d) He started an all-India Satyagraha
75. Who was made the Home Minister when Jawaharlal Nehru formed the Interim Government in 1946?
(a) Mohd Ali Jinnah (b) Baldev Singh
(c) Liaquat Ali Khan (d) Sardar Patel
76. The tomb at Sikandra is that of.
(a) Babur (b) Humayun
(c) Akbar (d) Jahangir
77. Panchayati Raj in India was introduced in the year:
(a) 1952 (b) 1956
(c) 1959 (d) 1961
78. The Vikrama Samvat is counted from:
(a) 58 B.C. (b) 78 A.D.
(c) 319 A.D. (d) 712 A.D.
79. The historical source attributed to Megasthenes is:
(a) The Periplus of the Erythraean Sea
(b) Geography
(c) Indica (d) Naturalis Historia
80. Jainism had the patronage of:
(a) Pushyamitra Sunga (b) Kanishka
(c) Samudragupta (d) Kharavela
81. Vatapi was the capital of the:
(a) Pallavas (b) Rashtrakutas
(c) Chalukyas (d) Senas
82. The Greek ambassador who visited the court of Chandragupta Maurya was:
(a) Seleucos (b) Megasthenes
(c) Tacitus (d) Heliodoros
83. Fahien visited India during the time of the:
(a) Mauryas (b) Sungas
(c) Kushanas (d) Guptas
84. The King of Kamarupa who was a contemporary of Sasanka was:
(a) Rajyabardhana (b) Bhaskarbarman
(c) Prabhakarbardhan (d) Devagupta
85. The great Pala king who was involved in a contest with the Pratiharas and the Rashtrakutas was:
(a) Gopal (b) Dharmapala
(c) Devapala (d) None of these
86. The Cholas ruled in:
(a) North India (b) South India
(c) West India (d) Central India
87. The Sultan who introduced price control for the market is:
(a) Qutubuddin (b) Balban
(c) Muhammad bin Tughlak (d) Alauddin
88. The system of horse-posts was introduced by:
(a) Babur (b) Akbar
(c) Sher Shah (d) Sher Singh
89. The Mughal Emperor known for his ruinous Deccan policy is:
(a) Akbar (b) Jahangir
(c) Shah Jahan (d) Aurangzeb
90. The nawab who was defeated in the battle of Buxar was:
(a) Murshid Kuli (b) Sirajuddaulah
(c) Mir Kasim (d) Mir Jafar
91. The practice of Sati was abolished by:
(a) Warren Hastings (b) Cornwallis
(c) Bentinck (d) Hardinge
92. The Indian Association was started by:
(a) Surendra Nath Banerjee (b) Dadabhai Naoroji
(c) Ananda Mohan Basu (d) Gandhi
93. The Muslim League was founded in:
(a) 1904 (b) 1905
(c) 1906 (d) 1907
94. The invasion of Ahmad Shah Abdali gave a death blow to the political fortunes of:
(a) Rohillas (b) Afghans
(c) Mughals (d) Marathas
95. The father of the 'Ryotwari' system of land revenue was:
(a) Sir John Shore (b) John Adam
(c) Thomas Munro (d) Sir George Barlow
96. 'Go back to Vedas' was a call given by:
(a) Vivekananda (b) Dayanand Saraswati
(c) Ram Krishna Paramhans (d) Raja Rammohan Roy
97. To promote the cause of Indian independence, Home Rule Society, popularly called 'India House' was established in London by:
(a) V.D. Savarkar (b) Shyamji Krishna Varma
(c) Hardayal (d) Madan Lal Dhingra
98. Mahatma Gandhi's thoughts were greatly influenced by:
(a) Bhagwad Gita (b) Bible
(c) The Upanishads (d) The Vedas
99. The 'Separatist' system of representation by various religious communities and other groups was a prominent feature of the:
(a) Indian Councils Act, 1861
(b) Government of India Act, 1919
(c) Government of India Act, 1935
(d) Indian Independence Act, 1947
100. India was elected as the President of the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1953. Who occupied this office on behalf of India?
(a) V.K. Krishna Menon (b) Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit
(c) S. Radhakrishnan
(d) Gopalaswamy Ayyangar

CONSTITUTION

101. Economic justice has been incorporated in the Constitution of India under:
(a) Directive Principles of State Policy
(b) Fundamental Rights
(c) Residuary Powers
(d) Fundamental Duties
102. Which ideal of the Constitution of India is achieved by the

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implementation of the adult franchise in India?

- (a) Social equality (b) Economic equality
(c) Political equality (d) Equality before law

103. Which one of the following is a source of revenue of a Municipal Committee?

- (a) Income tax (b) Octroi duty
(c) Excise duty (d) Foreign assistance

104. In a landmark judgement, the Supreme Court recently gave a historic verdict and held that a person has a "right to die". Which Section under the Indian Penal Code makes attempt to suicide a penal offence?

- (a) Section 307 (b) Section 308
(c) Section 309 (d) Section 306

105. While settling the controversial issue of reservations, the Supreme Court referred to "creamy layer". What does this signify?

- (a) Defence Services Personnel
(b) Other Backward Classes
(c) economically better-off people
(d) persons having very large income

106. Which portion of the Indian Constitution reflects the mind and ideals of its framers?

- (a) Preamble
(b) Fundamental Rights
(c) Directive Principles
(d) Emergency Provisions

107. The Constitution of India provides for:

- (a) single citizenship (b) multiple citizenship
(c) dual citizenship (d) None of the above

108. The fundamental rights under the Indian Constitution are:

- (a) nine (b) ten
(c) seven (d) six

109. A Presidential proclamation can remain in force for:

- (a) three months (b) two months
(c) six months
(d) till the President revokes it

110. The President of India is elected for:

- (a) 4 years (b) 6 years
(c) 5 years (d) life

111. The Chief Election Commissioner of India is:

- (a) elected by the Parliament
(b) nominated by the Prime Minister
(c) appointed by the President
(d) None of these

112. In an election, electioneering has to cease in a constituency:

- (a) 2 days before the poll
(b) 48 hours before the commencement of polling
(c) 48 hours before the closing hour of polling
(d) 24 hours before the poll

113. The Constitution of India came into force on:

- (a) January 26, 1950 (b) November 26, 1950
(c) November 26, 1949 (d) January 26, 1949

114. In a Parliamentary form of government the executive is responsible to the:

- (a) people (b) President
(c) legislature (d) judiciary

115. The Public Accounts Committee submits its report to the:

- (a) Prime Minister (b) Finance Minister
(c) President (d) Parliament

116. Education was transferred to the Concurrent List from the State List by the:

- (a) 40th Amendment Act (b) 42nd Amendment Act
(c) 43rd Amendment Act (d) 39th Amendment Act

117. What is the nature of Indian Constitution?

- (a) Non-federal (b) Unitary
(c) Quasi-federal (d) Federal

118. The 7th Schedule of the Indian Constitution contains:

- (a) allocations of seats for each State and Union Territory in Parliament

- (b) Union List, State List and Concurrent List

- (c) Forms of Oaths and Affirmations

- (d) Official languages of India

119. Jammu and Kashmir State adopted its separate Constitution on:

- (a) 26 January 1950 (b) 15 August 1952
(c) 26 November 1957 (d) 26 January 1957

120. What is the duration of zero hour in the Lok Sabha?

- (a) 15 minutes (b) Half an hour
(c) One hour (d) Not specified

121. For amendment of the election procedure of the President of India or his powers, the requirement is:

- (a) the Parliament passes the bill with 2/3rds majority
(b) no amendment is passed when a person holds the office
(c) besides passage of the bill in Parliament by the required majority, the legislatures of atleast half of the States must ratify it
(d) two-thirds majority in the Rajya Sabha is necessary

122. Equal pay for equal work for both men and women has been laid down in the Indian Constitution as one of the:

- (a) Fundamental Rights (b) Fundamental Duties
(c) Guidelines in the Preamble
(d) Directive Principles of State Policy

123. A member of either House of Parliament will be disqualified from being a member if:

- (a) expelled by the party on whose ticket he was elected
(b) the party on whose ticket he was elected merges with another political party
(c) after nomination he does not join any political party within a period of six months
(d) he has voluntarily given up membership of the party on whose ticket he was elected

124. The basic structure theory of the Constitution of India implies that:

- (a) certain features of the Constitution are so essential to it that they cannot be abrogated
(b) fundamental rights cannot be abridged or taken away
(c) the Constitution cannot be amended except in accordance with the procedure prescribed in Art. 368
(d) the Preamble of the Constitution cannot be amended for it is not a part of the Constitution and at the same time represents its real spirit.

125. Article 254 of the Indian Constitution describes which of the following?

- (a) The Parliament has the power to increase the number of judges
(b) The Union and States have concurrent powers to legislate on any matter enumerated in List III
(c) In case of any conflict between Union laws and State laws, the Union laws shall prevail
(d) The Union has exclusive power to make laws on any matter not enumerated in the concurrent list or State list
(e) The Governor of a State is the Executive head of the State Government

ECONOMY

126. 'Foreign aid' to India denotes inflow of resources from abroad in the form of:

- (a) credit extended by suppliers
(b) NRI deposits
(c) grants and grant component of loans
(d) grants and loans

127. The exchange value of the rupee is determined with refer

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

ence to:

- (a) the US dollar (b) the British pound
(c) a basket of selected currencies
(d) none of the above
128. Under perfect competition and short run, a firm would continue to produce provided:
(a) it is able to recover its fixed costs
(b) it is able to recover its variable costs
(c) its loss does not exceed a specified amount
(d) it is able to recover its total cost
129. A Free Port is one which:
(a) allows duty free imports
(b) does not have customs checking
(c) has free entry of re-exportable goods
(d) has free entry of imports from specified countries
130. Currency notes of RBI must be backed by not less than a specified:
(a) percentage of note issue in the form of gold and foreign securities
(b) percentage of note issue in the form of government securities
(c) amount of gold and foreign securities
(d) amount of government securities
131. "Revenue receipts" of the Government of India do not include:
(a) Interest (b) Profits and Dividends
(c) Recoveries of Loans (d) Rent from Property
132. The lines joining the places of equal labour and transportation costs are known as:
(a) isotims (b) isochrones
(c) isohypses (d) isodapanes
133. In India, "budgetary deficit" of the Government of India (GOI) is defined as:
(a) net increase in GOI treasury bills and withdrawals from cash balances
(b) net addition to total liabilities of the GOI
(c) net increase in RBI credit to GOI
(d) excess of revenue expenditure over revenue receipts of GOI
134. A subscriber to the new issues expecting to sell his allotment of securities at a profit when trading in them begins is called a:
(a) Bull (b) Bear
(c) Stag (d) Cow
135. Rupee convertibility aims at:
(a) increasing the export
(b) reducing bureaucratic control
(c) decreasing incentive for Hawala market
(d) all of the above
136. The country where death rate is lowest in the world is:
(a) Kuwait (b) Japan
(c) United States of America (d) Canada
137. Which of the following is true?
(a) Physical planning is more important than financial planning
(b) Financial planning is more important than physical planning
(c) Physical and financial plannings are equally important
(d) Physical and financial plannings are complementary
138. Which of the following is more effective to control prices in the long run?
(a) Increase in employment
(b) Decrease in the rate of interest
(c) Increase in production
(d) Decrease in the government expenditure
139. Which of the following is the major item of expenditure in the budget of 1995-96?

- (a) Central Plan (b) Interest payment
(c) Non-planned expenditure (d) Defence expenditure
140. Which of the following organizations is known as apex organization for industrial finance in India?
(a) Industrial Development Bank of India
(b) Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India
(c) Reserve Bank of India
(d) Industrial Finance Corporation of India
141. 'From each according to his ability, to each according to his need' is the theoretical slogan of:
(a) Feudal System (b) Capitalist System
(c) Fascist System (d) Communist System
142. The National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) is planning to disburse production and investment refinance of about how much amount during 1995-96 for agricultural and rural development with a view to substantially stepping up ground level credit flow?
(a) Rs 5,000 crores (b) Rs 10,000 crores
(c) Rs 15,000 crores (d) Rs 20,000 crores
(e) Rs 12,000 crores
143. Which of the following institutions/organisations has been entrusted with the job of determining the various service charges to be levied by banking sector?
(a) National Institute of Bank Management
(b) Indian Institute of Bankers
(c) Indian Banks' Association
(d) Institute of Cost and Works Accountants of India
(e) Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta
144. Approach of the Planning Commission to the 8th Five-Year Plan aims at a growth rate of:
(a) 5.6% (b) 6.5%
(c) 7.2% (d) 4.5%
145. The maximum amount of revenue accrues to the Government of India through:
(a) Railways (b) Income Tax
(c) Excise duties (d) Direct taxes
146. As per the 1994-95 Economic Survey what was the economic growth rate for 1994-95?
(a) 4.3 per cent (b) 5.3 per cent
(c) 6.2 per cent (d) 3.4 per cent
147. Industrial growth during 1994-95 was estimated at:
(a) 6 per cent (b) 7 per cent
(c) 8 per cent (d) 9 per cent
148. In India, Five-Year Plans for economic growth are finally approved by the:
(a) Planning Commission (b) Finance Commission
(c) Government of India
(d) National Development Council
149. How many banks were nationalised in 1969?
(a) 8 (b) 2
(c) 14 (d) 20
150. Labour force of a country is:
(a) Its total population (b) Its adult population
(c) The total of employed persons
(d) The portion of population available for employment

SCIENCE

151. The Indian scientist whose name is associated with a certain type of elementary particles, is:
(a) Raman (b) Bose
(c) Chandrashekhar (d) Saha
152. The plants get their carbon from CO₂ of the atmosphere. This was observed by:
(a) Louis Pasteur (b) De Bary
(c) De Saussure (d) Charles Darwin
153. A defect in lens due to the dispersion of light is called:
(a) myopia (b) astigmatism

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

- (c) spherical aberration (d) chromatic aberration
154. Rutherford is the scientist noted for:
 (a) the discovery of isotopes
 (b) the invention of the cyclotron
 (c) the invention of the synchrotron
 (d) the first man-made transmutations
155. Sound waves above 20,000 cps. are called:
 (a) supersonic (b) overtones
 (c) infrasonic (d) ultrasonic
156. As a metal rod increases in length due to heating its diameter:
 (a) increases (b) decreases
 (c) remains the same
157. A rubber balloon is blown up with carbon dioxide which is almost 1.5 times as dense as air. As the balloon expands the buoyant force of the air outside the balloon:
 (a) decreases (b) remains the same
 (c) increases
158. On a clear, calm day, as the temperature decreases, the relative humidity:
 (a) increases (b) decreases
 (c) remains the same
159. Which five-year-plan terminated one year before its scheduled period?
 (a) second (b) third
 (c) fourth (d) fifth
160. During photosynthesis, plants need:
 (a) Oxygen (b) Nitrogen
 (c) Water (d) Carbon dioxide
161. The element which has more than one form is called:
 (a) electron (b) allotropes
 (c) isotope (d) proton
162. 'Heavy water' is used in:
 (a) making soft drinks (b) atomic reactors
 (c) car battery
 (d) hospitals for drinking
163. A stick partly immersed in water appears bent because of:
 (a) reflection (b) polarisation
 (c) refraction (d) scattering
164. The velocity of the sound in vacuum is:
 (a) greater than in air (b) less than in air
 (c) same as in air (d) None of these
165. Ball bearings are used in cycles, scooters, mobikes etc to:
 (a) reduce friction between wheel and axle
 (b) increase friction between wheel and axle
 (c) to reduce friction between ground and vehicle
 (d) to reduce area of contact between the two surfaces in contact
166. Pasteurisation of milk means:
 (a) heating of milk to about 100°C
 (b) heating of milk to about 62°C
 (c) cooling of milk to about 4°C
 (d) cooling of milk to about 0°C
167. Who discovered Neutron?
 (a) Rutherford (b) Einstein
 (c) Chadwick (d) Otto Hahn
168. The equivalence of mass and energy has been established by:
 (a) Rutherford (b) Planck
 (c) Neils Bohr (d) Einstein
169. Which one is absent in air?
 (a) Oxygen (b) Nitrogen
 (c) Hydrogen (d) Helium
170. The possible method of separation of two liquids if they have appreciable difference in boiling point is:

- (a) distillation (b) fractional distillation
 (c) crystallisation (d) sublimation
171. Source of vitamin C is:
 (a) milk (b) egg
 (c) citrus fruit (d) carrot
172. What is the main function of the tail of a bird?
 (a) To help the bird to float in air
 (b) To balance the body
 (c) To generate speed during flying
 (d) To control direction during flying
173. Which one of the following vitamins is not soluble in fat?
 (a) A (b) D (c) C (d) K
174. Which one of the following food chains is correct?
 (a) grass—grasshopper—hawk—toad
 (b) leaf—lion—deer—pig
 (c) fruit—monkey—tiger—cow
 (d) algae—prawn—fish—man
175. How long haemoglobin in blood may remain alive?
 (a) 80 days (b) 100 days
 (c) 120 days (d) whole life
- ### GEOGRAPHY
176. The natural vegetation of Savanna consists of:
 (a) tall grass (b) scrub jungle
 (c) short grass (d) trees
177. Which one of the following ranges forms the water divide between Narmada and Tapi rivers?
 (a) Aravalli (b) Satpura
 (c) Kaimur (d) Vindhyan
178. Which one of the following environment supports the growth of Mangrove swamp?
 (a) Tidal flat (b) Monsoon
 (c) Equatorial (d) Mixed
179. Which one of the following States of India receives rainfall during the winter from the Mediterranean disturbances?
 (a) Gujarat (b) Maharashtra
 (c) Punjab (d) Tamil Nadu
180. Steppes are:
 (a) winds blowing in and around Mediterranean Sea
 (b) temperate grassland regions in Eurasia
 (c) tribals of Madhya Pradesh
 (d) huge temples of Egypt
181. Trade winds are:
 (a) winds that blow from the sub-tropical belts towards polar regions
 (b) winds that blow from the sub-tropical belts towards equator
 (c) winds that blow from polar regions towards sub-tropical belts
 (d) hot dry winds blowing from Sahara to the Mediterranean Sea
182. In which continent is Atacama Desert situated?
 (a) North America (b) South America
 (c) Asia (d) Africa
183. A bowl-shaped depression created as a result of glacial erosion high on a mountain side is called:
 (a) tarn (b) hum
 (c) hanging trough (d) cirque
184. The latitude of a place, on a night of clear sky, can be determined by determining:
 (a) the angular distance of the Pole Star above the horizon
 (b) the altitude of Venus
 (c) the angle between earth, Venus and Pole Star
 (d) cannot be determined in night
185. Which of the following practices of cultivation can be referred to crop rotation?
 (a) Different crops are repeatedly grown on the same land

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

- in a specific order
 (b) Different crops in the same season
 (c) The same crop in different seasons
 (d) The same crop in different fields
186. In which of the following regions maximum amount of groundwater reserves has been tapped?
 (a) Peninsular India (b) North Indian plains
 (c) Coastal plains
 (d) Himalayan mountain system
187. In which State of India dry-farming is practised?
 (a) Maharashtra (b) Gujarat
 (c) Rajasthan (d) Assam
188. Which is NOT a Tundra type of vegetation?
 (a) Lichens (b) Mosses
 (c) Sedges (d) Steppes
189. Which of the following words explains a narrow strip of land which joins two large land areas, otherwise separated by the sea?
 (a) Isthmus (b) Strait
 (c) Bay (d) Peninsula
190. What percentage of the total geographical area of India is covered by forests?
 (a) 70% (b) 60.88%
 (c) 34.88% (d) 22.88%
191. Ajanta caves are situated in:
 (a) Maharashtra (b) Andhra Pradesh
 (c) Uttar Pradesh (d) Tamil Nadu
192. As we go up in the atmosphere:
 (a) temperature decreases and pressure increases
 (b) both temperature and pressure decrease
 (c) both temperature and pressure increase
 (d) temperature increases and pressure decreases
193. Which State is covered mostly with black soil?
 (a) Madhya Pradesh (b) Maharashtra
 (c) Bihar (d) Punjab
194. The main cause of occurrence of earthquakes is:
 (a) movement in earth strata (b) volcanic eruptions
 (c) nuclear explosions (d) storms
195. Which one of the following is the correct sequence of planets in order of increasing distance from the sun?
 (a) Venus, Mars, Uranus, Mercury
 (b) Mercury, Earth, Venus, Mars
 (c) Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars
 (d) Jupiter, Mercury, Venus, Earth
 (e) None of these
196. As per the recent report of a study sponsored by the Department of Ocean Development, the most polluted coastal waters are those along the:
 (a) Coromandel coast (b) Kerala coast
 (c) Maharashtra coast
 (d) Kachch area of Gujarat coast
197. Ultra violet radiation of the sun does not reach the earth extensively as the upper layers of the atmosphere contain:
 (a) oxygen (b) ozone
 (c) carbon monoxide (d) fluorocarbons
198. The river Cauvery originates from which of the following States?
 (a) Andhra Pradesh (b) Tamil Nadu
 (c) Karnataka (d) Madhya Pradesh
199. Which of the south Indian rivers flow in the Arabian Sea?
 (a) Narmada and Tapi (b) Chambal and Betwa
 (c) Krishna and Kaveri (d) Damodar and Mahanadi
200. The main river in Sikkim is:
 (a) Jaldhaka (b) Manas
 (c) Tista (d) Teesta
201. Which one of the following canals is not used for irrigation?
 (a) Upper Ganga Canal (b) Indira Gandhi Canal
 (c) Western Yamuna Canal (d) Buckingham Canal
202. Black soil is best suited for:
 (a) cotton (b) wheat
 (c) jute (d) rice
203. Which of the following States leads in the production of wheat?
 (a) Punjab (b) Haryana
 (c) Uttar Pradesh (d) Madhya Pradesh
204. Which of the following countries experiences frequent earthquakes?
 (a) Japan (b) Singapore
 (c) Mexico (d) Iraq
205. On which river is Hirakud Dam built?
 (a) Sutlej (b) Damodar
 (c) Ganga (d) Mahanadi
206. On which of the following rivers is Washington (USA) situated?
 (a) Danube (b) Potomac
 (c) Nile (d) Hudson
207. Thumba is in:
 (a) Kerala (b) Karnataka
 (c) Andhra Pradesh (d) Goa
208. Which part of India is closest to Indonesia?
 (a) Mizoram (b) Andaman and Nicobar Islands
 (c) West Bengal (d) Tripura
209. Digboi oil fields are situated in:
 (a) Assam (b) West Bengal
 (c) Gujarat (d) Tamil Nadu
210. Area drained by a river is called:
 (a) Valley (b) Plateau
 (c) Basin (d) Flood plain
- ### GENERAL
211. Indian Institute of Science is situated in:
 (a) Bombay (b) New Delhi
 (c) Ahmedabad (d) Bangalore
212. Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra is a maestro of which of the following dance forms?
 (a) Kathak (b) Kathakali
 (c) Bharat Natyam (d) Kuchipudi
 (e) Odissi
213. Mahatma Gandhi was referred to as "the Father of the Nation" first by:
 (a) Jawahar Lal Nehru (b) Vallabhbhai Patel
 (c) C. Rajagopalacharya (d) Subhash Chander Bose
214. Name the person who received both Bharat Ratna and Nishan-e-Pakistan:
 (a) Mahatma Gandhi (b) Ayub Khan
 (c) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad
 (d) Morarji Desai
215. Excessive consumption of alcoholic drinks causes damage to the:
 (a) Kidney (b) Heart (c) Lungs (d) Liver
216. The Election Commission functions under:
 (a) Ministry of Law
 (b) Prime Minister's Secretariat
 (c) Ministry of Home Affairs
 (d) None of these
217. Where is the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research situated?
 (a) Bombay (b) Pune (c) Nasik (d) Bangalore
218. In which year will U.K. give possession of Hong Kong to China?
 (a) 1990 (b) 1995 (c) 1997 (d) 2000
219. Which Indian State has the largest population?

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

- (a) Kerala (b) Madhya Pradesh
(c) Maharashtra (d) Uttar Pradesh
220. 'Kalinga Prize' is awarded for:
(a) promoting international peace
(b) improving public understanding of science
(c) promoting literature (d) investigative journalism
221. Which one of the following is correctly matched?
(a) "Swarajya is my birthright"—Mahatma Gandhi
(b) "Dilli Chalo"—Subhash Chander Bose
(c) "You give me blood and I will give you freedom"—Winston Churchill
(d) Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan—Jawahar Lal Nehru
222. Which of the following is the highest rank in Air Force?
(a) Wing Commander (b) Flying Officer
(c) Squadron Leader (d) Air Commodore
223. 'Operation Flood' refers to:
(a) use of preventive measures for flood devastation
(b) dairy development for increased milk production
(c) a study of floods in India
(d) military operation in Siachen Glacier area of J & K
224. The word "Sardeshmukhi" is associated with:
(a) Music (b) Religion
(c) Revenue (d) Education
225. The pink city Jaipur was founded by:
(a) Bhagwan Das (b) Man Singh
(c) Mirza Raja Jai Singh (d) Sawai Jai Singh
226. Mahadev Desai was Secretary to:
(a) Motilal Nehru (b) Mahatma Gandhi
(c) Jawahar Lal Nehru (d) Morarji Desai
227. The highest mountain peak of Himalayas is in:
(a) India (b) Bhutan
(c) Nepal (d) Tibet
228. Which city of India has the largest Zoological garden?
(a) Delhi (b) Calcutta
(c) Bombay (d) Jaipur
229. What season is there in Australia during Christmas?
(a) winter (b) summer (c) spring (d) autumn
230. Which of the following is referred to as the Fourth Estate?
(a) Press (b) Doordarshan
(c) Judiciary (d) Parliament
231. Kandla is a:
(a) sea port (b) aeroplane
(c) glacier (d) car
232. Which one of the following hill stations is situated in Himachal Pradesh?
(a) Kasauli (b) Mussoorie
(c) Ooty (d) Pahalgam
233. Bhoodan movement was started by:
(a) Acharya Vinoba Bhave (b) Jaya Prakash Narayan
(c) M.K. Gandhi (d) Gautama Buddha
234. Who invented the script for the blind?
(a) Louis Braille (b) Gutenberg
(c) Sholes (d) Caxton
235. The United Nations has completed how many years of its existence?
(a) 75 (b) 60
(c) 40 (d) 50
(e) None of these
236. Which of the following will be the function of the recently set up National Committee on Children?
(a) It will monitor the welfare schemes of children
(b) It will control the use of child labour in factories
(c) it will review the developmental programmes implemented by various State governments for children
(d) It will analyse the situation of children in

- (e) None of these
237. The U.N. Peace Keeping Forces have pulled out in March this year from which of the following countries?
(a) Cambodia (b) Nigeria
(c) Haiti (d) Somalia
(e) None of these
238. Assembly election to which of the States were not held during February-March 1995?
(a) Bihar (b) Maharashtra
(c) Karnataka (d) Gujarat
(e) Manipur
239. Which of the following cities are in descending order of population?
(a) Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Delhi
(b) Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Madras
(c) Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras
(d) Madras, Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay
240. Who is author of the book "In Custody"?
(a) V.S. Naipal (b) R.K. Narayanan
(c) T.S. Pillai (d) Amrita Pritam
(e) Vikram Seth

ANSWERS

HISTORY

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|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------|---------|
| 1. (c) | 2. (b) | 3. (c) | 4. (a) | 5. (a) | 6. (a) |
| 7. (b) | 8. (d) | 9. (a) | 10. (b) | 11. (b) | 12. (b) |
| 13. (c) | 14. (c) | 15. (c) | 16. (c) | 17. (c) | 18. (a) |
| 19. (c) | 20. (d) | 21. (c) | 22. (c) | 23. (b) | 24. (a) |
| 25. (b) | 26. (a) | 27. (b) | 28. (c) | 29. (c) | 30. (c) |
| 31. (d) | 32. (d) | 33. (c) | 34. (d) | 35. (c) | 36. (d) |
| 37. (d) | 38. (c) | 39. (b) | 40. (a) | 41. (c) | 42. (a) |
| 43. (d) | 44. (b) | 45. (b) | 46. (a) | 47. (b) | 48. (b) |
| 49. (a) | 50. (e) | 51. (b) | 52. (a) | 53. (b) | 54. (a) |
| 55. (c) | 56. (d) | 57. (c) | 58. (c) | 59. (d) | 60. (b) |
| 61. (d) | 62. (b) | 63. (d) | 64. (c) | 65. (d) | 66. (b) |
| 67. (b) | 68. (a) | 69. (c) | 70. (d) | 71. (d) | 72. (b) |
| 73. (b) | 74. (a) | 75. (d) | 76. (c) | 77. (c) | 78. (a) |
| 79. (c) | 80. (d) | 81. (c) | 82. (b) | 83. (d) | 84. (b) |
| 85. (b) | 86. (b) | 87. (d) | 88. (c) | 89. (d) | 90. (b) |
| 91. (c) | 92. (a) | 93. (c) | 94. (d) | 95. (c) | 96. (b) |
| 97. (b) | 98. (a) | 99. (c) | 100. (b) | | |

CONSTITUTION

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|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 101. (a) | 102. (d) | 103. (b) | 104. (c) | 105. (c) | 106. (a) |
| 107. (a) | 108. (d) | 109. (c) | 110. (c) | 111. (c) | 112. (d) |
| 113. (a) | 114. (c) | 115. (c) | 116. (b) | 117. (c) | 118. (b) |
| 119. (d) | 120. (d) | 121. (c) | 122. (d) | 123. (d) | 124. (a) |
| 125. (c) | 126. (d) | 127. (a) | 128. (b) | 129. (c) | 130. (b) |
| 131. (d) | 132. (b) | 133. (d) | 134. (a) | 135. (d) | 136. (b) |
| 137. (b) | 138. (c) | 139. (b) | 140. (a) | 141. (d) | 142. (c) |
| 143. (c) | 144. (a) | 145. (c) | 146. (b) | 147. (c) | 148. (d) |
| 149. (c) | 150. (d) | | | | |

SCIENCE

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|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 151. (b) | 152. (c) | 153. (d) | 154. (d) | 155. (d) | 156. (a) |
| 157. (c) | 158. (a) | 159. (d) | 160. (d) | 161. (b) | 162. (b) |
| 163. (c) | 164. (b) | 165. (a) | 166. (b) | 167. (c) | 168. (d) |
| 169. (c) | 170. (b) | 171. (c) | 172. (d) | 173. (c) | 174. (d) |
| 175. (d) | | | | | |

GEOGRAPHY

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|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 176. (a) | 177. (b) | 178. (a) | 179. (c) | 180. (b) | 181. (b) |
| 182. (b) | 183. (d) | 184. (a) | 185. (a) | 186. (b) | 187. (c) |
| 188. (d) | 189. (a) | 190. (d) | 191. (a) | 192. (b) | 193. (b) |
| 194. (a) | 195. (c) | 196. (d) | 197. (b) | 198. (c) | 199. (a) |
| 200. (c) | 201. (d) | 202. (a) | 203. (c) | 204. (a) | 205. (d) |
| 206. (b) | 207. (a) | 208. (b) | 209. (a) | 210. (c) | |

GENERAL

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|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 211. (d) | 212. (e) | 213. (d) | 214. (d) | 215. (d) | 216. (d) |
| 217. (a) | 218. (c) | 219. (d) | 220. (b) | 221. (b) | 222. (d) |
| 223. (b) | 224. (c) | 225. (d) | 226. (b) | 227. (c) | 228. (b) |
| 229. (b) | 230. (a) | 231. (a) | 232. (a) | 233. (a) | 234. (a) |
| 235. (d) | 236. (a) | 237. (d) | 238. (c) | 239. (b) | 240. (d) |

Resume of Expected Questions on Current Affairs

Where has the Indian Institute for Entrepreneur Development (IIED) been set up and for what purpose?

Ahmedabad. It is the first institution of its kind for providing training for entrepreneurship development for women.

Where is the Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (CAIR) located?

Bangalore. The Centre has developed a robot vision based inspection system which can test a composite material just by "seeing" it.

Where is the UN's first regional space centre for Asia Pacific located?

New Delhi.

Where was the 11th Non Aligned Movement (NAM) summit held?

Cartagena, Colombia.

Where was the World Summit on Women held?

Beijing, China. A parallel NGO summit was held in Huarou, 50 km away.

Where is the world's longest and largest hydro power tunnel being built?

Nathpa-Jhakri in Himachal Pradesh. The tunnel is part of the Nathpa-Jhakri Hydroelectric Project being built on the river Sutlej.

Where is the world's largest giant metrewave radio telescope being built?

Khadod, near Pune.

Where is the world's highest telescope being installed?

Hanley in Ladakh district of J&K.

Which country is assisting in the building of the Dulhasti Power Project in J&K?

France.

Which country has India entered into an agreement to train each other's civil servants?

China.

In which State is the Uri hydroelectric project located?

Jammu & Kashmir. The project is scheduled to be commissioned in Decem-

ber '96.

In which State was India's first all women multi-purpose co-operative society instituted?

Meghalaya.

The longest railway tunnel on the Konkan railway route is situated at what place?

Barcem. The tunnel is 3400 metres long.

Name the sanctuary which has been placed by UNESCO in the world heritage list.

Ghana Sanctuary in Assam.

Where has India's 13th oil refinery been set up?

Panangudi in Tamil Nadu. It has been set up by Madras Refineries Ltd and dedicated to the nation on February 15, '95.

Which city is the most expensive in the world to set up an office?

Bombay, followed by Tokyo and Hong Kong.

Where is the United Nations University located?

Tokyo.

Where is the tallest tower in Asia located?

Shanghai, China. It is the 468 metre Oriental Pearl television tower.

Where was the World Theatre Festival held in July '95?

Avignon, France.

Where is India's first satellite air freight city proposed to be set up?

Near New Delhi.

Which ASEAN country celebrated its 50th year of independence on August 17, 1995?

Indonesia.

Where were the 1995 world university games held?

Fukoka, Japan.

Where is the Cogentrix Thermal Power Project proposed to be set up?

Mangalore in Karnataka.

In which foreign city has the first Indian representation been set up which is funded entirely by the private sector?

Riga, the capital of Latvia. Ten Indian companies have pooled in Rs 25 lakh for setting up the India Trade Centre at Riga.

What is the new name of Aurangabad in Maharashtra?

Sambhaji Nagar.

What is the new name proposed to be given to the city of Ahmedabad, by the Gujarat government?

Karnavati.

Which State has the highest birth rate?

Uttar Pradesh.

Where has the sixth Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) been set up?

Guwahati, Assam.

What is C-Dac and where is it located?

Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-Dac). It is located at Pune.

What is the name of the electronic communication network of the Reserve Bank of India?

The RBINET. It will connect RBI with commercial banks. It can transmit data files, text files and binary files, and will also enable transmission of circulars to banks.

What is BOLT?

BSE On-Line Trading System (BOLT) is a fully computerised trading system for trading in shares at the Bombay Stock Exchange.

What is the name of the computer operating system launched by Microsoft in 1995?

Windows 95.

Name the first Indian army chief to have died in office.

Gen B C Joshi.

Who was head of the tenth Finance Commission?

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K C Pant.

Name the Indian born conductor of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra.

Zubin Mehta.

Who was the Chief Guest at the 1995 Republic Day?

Nelson Mandela, President of South Africa.

Name the famous British actor of Indian origin whose original name was Krishna Banji.

Ben Kingsley, who played the role of Gandhi in Richard Attenborough's film.

Name the youngest Chief Minister of an Indian State to be sworn in for the fourth time.

Gegong Apong, Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh.

Name the Indian whose wax statue was installed at the Hall of Fame at Madame Tussauds' in London.

P V Narasimha Rao.

Who is India's youngest International Woman (chess) Master?

Nishita Mohota. She is only 14 years old.

Who is the chairman of the Minorities Commission of India?

Justice (retd) Mohammed Sardar Ali Khan.

Name the scientist who has been selected for the Trieste based Third World Science Academy Award for physical sciences.

R Cowsik, director of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, for his contribution to the study of massive neutrinos.

Who has been awarded the Robert F Kennedy Human Rights Award?

Kailash Satyarthi, head of the South Asian Coalition on Child Servitude. He was chosen for his contributions to campaigns against child labour.

Name the American born human rights activist who was released just before the UN Women's Conference in China?

Harry Wu.

What is the name of the US football player who was acquitted from a murder charge?

O J Simpson.

Who is the owner of Zee Television?

Subhash Chandra.

Who is the head of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)?

Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam.

Name the Indian who has been elected vice president of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), a specialised agency of the UN.

N Sen Roy, director general of Indian Meteorological Department. This is the highest office an Indian has occupied in the WMO.

Who created the Indian Air Force and military aviation record by becoming the first IAF officer to log 12,900 hours of flying without a single accident?

Group Captain AD Karandikar. He created the record in his 27 years of service. For 11 years, he has been flying VVIPs.

Economy

What amount was paid by India in 1993-94 towards debt service payment, including principal and interest?

\$ 8.4 billion.

What is India's per capita gross national product, as per the World Bank?"

\$ 310 by conventional standards. When calculated by the Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) method taking into account what the currency buys in the market, it is \$ 1250.

Name Switzerland's first Indian owned private bank.

AMAS Bank Ltd. The bank has been founded by the Hinduja group.

What is the current prime lending rate of banks in India?

15 per cent. The rate was increased by 1 per cent from February 16, '95.

Which British bank collapsed in February '95 because of losses in the stock market?

Barings Plc.

Who was responsible for the Barings bank collapse?

Nicholas Leeson.

What was the name of the Japanese Bank that reportedly lost \$ 1.1 billion by trading in bonds?

Daiwa Bank.

Which company has tied up with

Daewoo of South Korea to produce cars in India?

DCM. DCM-Daewoo has launched the Cielo model in India.

What was India's growth rate for 1994-95 as per the economic survey?

5.3 per cent. Industrial growth has been estimated at 8 per cent.

Which product is the largest net foreign exchange earner for India?

Textiles.

What amount of foreign exchange was earned by the tourism industry in 1994-95?

Rs 7365.61 crore.

Which country was the biggest World Bank borrower in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995?

China, which received \$ 3 billion from the Bank, followed by Mexico with \$ 2.3 billion and India with \$ 2.1 billion.

For what purpose was the Malegam committee set up?

The Malegam committee was set up by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to study the primary market disclosure norms.

For what purpose was the G S Patel committee set up?

The G S Patel committee was set up by SEBI on re-introduction of forward trading in stock exchanges of India.

What is the level of India's debt as on March '95?

\$ 95,321 million, according to the RBI report for 1994-95.

What is the growth rate of India for 1994-95?

5.5 per cent, according to the RBI report for 1994-95.

What is the name of the mines in M.P. which caused a controversy when they were handed over to a private party?

Bailadila mines in M.P. The mines were given to Nippon Denro Ispat of the Mittal Group.

Books

Who is the author of the book "Crossing the Threshold of Hope"?

Pope John Paul II. This is the first

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book ever written by a sitting Pope for a general audience.

Who has written the book "Long Walk To Freedom"?

Nelson Mandela.

Who is the author of the book "Freedom Behind Bars"?

Kiran Bedi.

What is the name of Salman Rushdie's new book?

The Moor's Last Sigh.

Who has written the book "The Anatomy of a flawed existence"?

J N Dixit, former foreign secretary of India.

Who is the author of the book "Meri Ekawan Kavayen"?

Atal Behari Vajpayee.

Who is the author of the book "The Other Half"?

P V Narasimha Rao.

What is the name of Khushwant Singh's autobiography?

Truth, Love and a Little Malice.

Who has written "The End of Racism"?

Dinesh D'Souza.

Who is the author of the book "Muslim Law and the Constitution"?

A M Bhattacharjee.

Defence

What is the name of the third indigenously built missile boat of the Indian Navy?

INS Nashak.

Name the pilotless target aircraft which has been developed by India?

Rakshak.

What is the name of India's surface to air medium range missile?

Akash. It was successfully test fired from Balasore in Orissa on April 26, '95.

What was the purpose of "Operation Goodwill"?

Operation Goodwill was launched by the army in Ladakh for the welfare of the people, who remain cut off from the rest of the country during winter months.

What is Operation Golden Bird?

It is the military offensive against the rebel groups in north-eastern India.

What does "Operation Leap Forward" refer to?

It is the largest offensive taken by the Sri Lankan army to capture the areas controlled by the LTTE guerillas.

For what purpose was "Operation Sunny Vale" launched?

It was launched in Manipur to crack down insurgents of Imphal valley.

What is Project Sampark?

Project Sampark of the Border Roads Organisation is responsible for construction and maintenance of defence priority highways and roads covering areas in J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Punjab.

The launch pad for the test firing of India's missiles, situated at present at Chandipur, Orissa, is proposed to be shifted to which place?

Wheeler group of islands, situated off the Orissa coast.

Sports

Where was the first National Para Gliding Championship held?

Billing in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh.

Who were the winners of the 1995 Irani Trophy? With which game is this trophy associated?

Bombay. Irani Trophy is associated with one day cricket.

India defeated which country to win the 1995 Sultan Azlan Shah hockey tournament, played in Malaysia?

Germany.

Which country won the Singers champions trophy one day cricket tournament played at Sharjah in October '95?

Sri Lanka.

Name the winner of the 1995 US Open women's singles title?

Steffi Graf of Germany.

Name the person who won the Intel World Chess Championships, beating India's Vishwanath Anand.

Garry Kasparov.

Miscellany

Who is the director of "Schindler's

List"? What is the film about?

Steven Spielberg. The film is about Oskar Schindler, a German, who saved 1200 jews from extermination during World War II.

For what are Auschwitz and Birkenau in Poland known for?

These were locations of Nazi death camps. One and a half million jews were exterminated in these camps. On January 27 and 28, 1995, a ceremony was held at these places to remind the world that such a holocaust should not happen again.

What are the new goals of the National Literacy Mission (NLM)?

NLM would cover 10 crore adult literates by 1997, up from the earlier target of 8 crore by 1995.

Name the 185th member of the UN.

Palau, a small island State, which was earlier a trust territory administered by the USA.

With what is "blue revolution" associated?

Fish farming.

In which year and where was the national flag first hoisted?

In 1943, Netaji Subhash Chander Bose hoisted the national flag at the Andaman and Nicobar islands.

What was India's population in 1993? 900.54 million, according to the World Bank Atlas.

What is the new name of the tourist train "Palace on Wheels"?

The Royal Orient.

Which agency has started India's first Radio Data Servicing?

All India Radio.

Which day is observed as the International Women's Day?

March 8.

Which day is observed as the World Health Day?

April 7.

Which day was observed as Anti-Terrorism Day?

May 19.

Which day is observed as World No Tobacco Day?

May 31.

Which day is observed as the Interna-

tional Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking?

June 26.

Which day is observed as the World Population Day?

July 11.

Which day in India is observed as Sports Day?

August 29, the birthday of late Dhyan Chand, the hockey wizard.

Name India's first university in the private sector.

Rajiv Gandhi University of Computer Sciences.

For what purpose was the Dinesh Goswami committee set up?

To suggest electoral reforms.

What is NEDB?

North Eastern Development Bank. It has been set up to finance industrial projects and projects in North East India.

Which countries have been adjudged as the most corrupt countries in the world?

Indonesia heads the list while India, Pakistan and China are among the most corrupt countries, by Transparency International, a global coalition against corruption in international business. New Zealand, Denmark, Singapore and Finland are among the least corrupt.

What is the phone density of India?

One phone per hundred population. The Indian Telecom is the thirteenth largest in the world, in terms of size.

How many States are being covered by the Total Literacy programme?

12.

Which year has been designated as poverty eradication year by SAARC?

1995.

Which Indian language has the largest number of TV channels?

Tamil.

Name the virus which killed many people in Zaire?

Ebola.

What is *kaleen* and who gives this label?

Kaleen is a label given by the Carpet Export Promotion Council (CEPC) indicating the non use of child labour in the manufacture of carpets.

For what purpose was the Vohra Committee set up?

To probe the nexus between politicians and criminals.

Name the first US space shuttle to dock with the Russian space station, *Mir*.

Atlantis.

Name the countries which decided to resume nuclear arms testing?

France and China.

Name the oldest newspaper in Asia.
Bombay Samachar. It completed 173 years of publication on June 30, 1995 and is the fourth oldest in the world.

What is *Jan Shakti*?

It is a social organisation working towards creating awareness among the people for all round development.

What does the Brown Amendment, recently passed by the US Senate, relate to?

It allows the passage of a \$ 370 million arms package to Pakistan, while also facilitating the sale of 28 F-16 aircraft which had been bought by Pakistan, to a third party and the money being re-imbursed to Pakistan.

The Amendment partially overrides the Pressler Amendment under which sanctions were imposed on Pakistan in 1990 for its secret nuclear weapons programme.

For what purpose was the Khan committee set up?

To suggest ways to enable Department of Telecommunications (DoT) to effectively handle competition from private operators. It has recommended converting DoT into a private body.

Which country is the largest wheat producer of the world?

China. It is followed by USA and India.

What is the new name of Connaught Place and Connaught Circus?

Rajiv Chowk and Indira Chowk.

Name the trains involved in the worst train accident in India which occurred in 1995.

Kalindi Express and Purushottam Express.

Name the President of Pakistan who visited India in May '95.

Farooq Ahmed Leghari

What is *Vastu Shastra*?

Ancient architectural rules guiding the construction of sacred buildings.

What is the name of the trade agreement decided in the SAARC meeting?

The South Asian Preferential Trade Agreement (SAPTA), which will come into operation in December '95.

Which country is the leading arms supplier to the Third World?

France. Its 1994 arms deals reached \$ 11.4 billion from \$ 3.8 billion in 1993. US deals fell from \$ 15.4 billion to \$ 6.1 billion.

What is the life expectancy at birth for India for 1991-96?

61.6 years.

What is the purpose of the Jain commission?

Probing the conspiracy of the Rajiv Gandhi assassination.

Name the Indian film director whose film about the Cuban boat people stirred up a controversy in USA?

Mira Nair. The name of the film is "The Perez Family".

Who is Miss Universe, 1995?

Miss USA, Chelsi Smith. Miss India Manpreet Brar was the first runner up.

Where is the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute being set up?

Calcutta. This institute is the second of its kind after FTII, Pune.

What is Project Moon?

Project Moon is a scheme to soften hardened criminals through yoga. It has been successfully used in Bihar and is to be started in Thane jail in Maharashtra.

Which Indian city's name has been given to a perfume launched by a French company?

Jaipur.

What is the total wind power generating installed capacity in India?

340 MW. Tamil Nadu leads with a capacity of 260 MW.

What percentage of population in India lives below the poverty line?

29.9 per cent. Orissa leads with 44.7 per cent followed by Bihar with 40.8 per cent. The lowest is West Bengal with 27.6 per cent and small States and UTs with 7.7 per cent.

Questions on Social and Economic Problems

Taxation of Agriculture

Q. 'Like the non-agriculture sector, Agriculture should also be taxed—the nature, extent and method of taxation may vary.' Comment.

Ans. In the context of taxation of agriculture, the main areas of concern today are *firstly*, whether agriculture should be taxed, *secondly* how it should be taxed, *thirdly* whether the initiative to impose agriculture income tax be on Central government or on State governments and *lastly*, whether it is politically feasible to impose income tax on agriculture. To consider the first question, it should be noted that 'agriculture' as such is not tax-free.

Agriculturists pay certain taxes directly. These include land revenue, cesses and surcharges on land revenue and cesses on crops. In a very insignificant form is the agricultural Income tax which is levied and collected by the States. This, however, was just 1 per cent in 1951-52 and only about 0.4 per cent of the States' tax revenues in 1991-92. By and large, income from agriculture is not subjected to an income-tax except for the agricultural component of the net income of plantations. Direct agricultural taxes as percentage of State tax revenue has rapidly declined since economic planning started—from 18.6 per cent in 1951-52 to 1.9 per cent in 1991-92. The insignificance of the contribution of farmers is evident if we consider the tax revenues of the Centre and the States. Direct taxes paid by the farmers by way of land revenue and agricultural income tax worked out to be 7 per cent in 1951-52 and came down rapidly to 0.9 per cent in 1991-92. Analysing the burden of taxation on agricultural and non-agricultural sectors in India, it has been observed that in general, the agricultural sector bears far less burden than the non-agricultural

sector; the upper classes of people bear much less burden than the lower classes in both sectors; there is great scope for increase in agricultural taxation, specially upon the higher income groups.

There is plenty of scope for taxation of agriculture/agricultural income. Direct taxes on agriculture have remained almost static since 1950-51. Thus agriculture has not contributed anything significant for economic development, even though the crude index of economic welfare of the agricultural sector has been rising. Moreover, there is a high concentration of land in the hands of a few. In fact, this trend has been increasing over the past few years. Agriculture can be made to bear a larger burden of taxation after taking care of the special characteristics of agriculture. It is felt that the class who benefits from the substantial investments in agriculture—research, irrigation, fertiliser plants, rural electrification, credit, support prices—should also contribute a part of their prosperity towards the cost of development in general. Supporters of taxation of agriculture also feel that the green revolution and commercial farming have helped promote agricultural growth and prosperity. In this context, the present tax system has become outmoded, inadequate.

However, people who oppose taxation of agriculture say that this agricultural prosperity has come to only a part of the farming family. Also, although commercialisation has taken place, the basic problem of land fragmentation amongst various impoverished farmers remain. They also argue that a part of income of big farmers is invested in financing inputs of scientific agriculture. Besides, a large part of the big farmers come under the net of excise taxation on various manufactured goods now entering into the con-

sumption patterns of these people.

On the method of taxation and responsibility by State or Central governments also, there are varied views. Some say that although agriculture is a State subject, the Centre can take the initiative to tax agriculture. Ideally, there should be only one income-tax which should be Centrally levied. But it is debatable whether the State governments would relinquish their powers to the Centre or not. Some do point out that since the assessment of agricultural income will have to be based on the size and quality of land, it would be desirable to let the State governments collect the tax. One major problem would be duplication of income tax staff. One of the simple structures suggested was to take 50 per cent of a farmer's agricultural production as cost and the remaining as income, which can be taxed. The tax reforms committee recommended that for tax purposes, agricultural income, in excess of an exception limit, of non-agricultural income assessee, should be clubbed with their non-agricultural income. By and large, one would feel that the general opinion is that agricultural income should be taxed—whatever be the method or extent.

Foreign Print Media

Q. Should foreign individuals or organisations be allowed to publish newspapers in India or enter into joint ventures or collaborations with Indian parties? Are we strong enough to withstand their entry? Give your views on this issue.

Ans. A lot has been said about the entry of the foreign sector into the Indian print media—both for and against. The issue is controversial and involves a whole lot of different views.

Those who are strictly against the entry say that supporters of the entry do

not care for the history, politics or constitutional legal situation. It has been said that the Fundamental Right to freedom of speech and expression including the freedom of the Press, is guaranteed to Indian citizens only. Even Rupert Murdoch had to surrender his Australian citizenship and opt for American citizenship before he was able to own a TV station in that country. They also say that the newspaper industry's primary task is to be the watchdog of the country's interests. Foreigners would have no such obligation. Besides, foreign media can financially ruin the Indian newspapers by selling its own products cheap. Foreigners dream of coming into the country not for the development of the country but for their own economic interests. Entry of foreign print media will bring with it three main dangers: end of plurality of the Indian press, information pollution and unbridled entry of foreign nationals posing a security threat. Their entry should be opposed in principle.

Supporters of the entry of foreign print media point out that it is the forte of us Indians to pick up cudgels the moment the word 'foreign' is mentioned—Blame it on the 'foreign hand', so to speak. From the time of the Justice Rajadhyaksh Press Commission in 1954 to the time of the Second Press Commission under Justice Mathews, to current years, the entry of foreign media in terms of "either shares or loans" has been vehemently opposed. This is basically because of the historical mindset which is responsible for the hysterics created about the ushering in of the foreign press. The hue and cry created is but a poor reflection of the low self-confidence level of the Indian press. In fact, the Indian Industry has long shied away from competition and it is about time that the sleeping Goliaths woke up in this arena too.

In reality, the foreign media promises cost effectiveness, healthy competition, better remuneration, a greater number of jobs, a professional approach, better technology and more money. Besides, the hysterical group needs to remember that we are essentially talking of partnership of equals and tie-ups, not mass takeovers.

They will be allowed 49% equity only and will be subject to all Indian laws on obscenity, libel and labour employment. The question of danger to the delicate security issues or the national integration of the country doesn't arise. Do we consider ourselves so susceptible to all external influences? Does our diffidence and lack of confidence blind us so much that we fail to see the advantages of opening the doors of our country to newcomers? Moreover—in whatever form—the foreign media is already here and now, protesting against the advent of print media would be like closing the stable door after the horse has bolted.

While making any conclusion regarding this issue it would do well to remember what the Father of the Nation said: "I do not want my house to be walled on all sides and my windows to be stuffed. I want the culture of all lands to be blown about my house as freely as possible. But I refuse to be blown off my feet by any of them..."

Violence in Cinema

Q. 'Hindi cinema is responsible for encouraging violence in society.' Comment.

Ans. Indian cinema is one of the largest in the world and India is one of the world's major film producers. Cinema is considered the easiest medium to reach the masses in the country. Using viewer-friendly language and attractive visuals, cinema manages to reach out to, and influence a majority of the people in the country.

Antagonists point out that with very few exceptions, Hindi feature films play up unsocial, unethical and violent activity. Generally stories are built around romantic adventure, crime and criminals, vulgar human passions and sex scenes. There is always an underlying theme of the 'good' vs the 'evil' and invariably, the fight for justice—'insaf' or 'nyay' being the commonly used words—is shown to be based on a foundation of violent protest. The hero is the angry young man who is willing to pick up cudgels against anything and everything that is unfair and

unjust. Violence, infact, is taken to be the solution for every problem. It is almost surprising that the general idea that is conveyed is that ultimately violence would bring a positive result. Cinema also presents scenes of luxury living, unrealistic themes and the latest fashions and trends in modern permissive society. It is also felt that film producers do not realise their responsibility and produce high cost films with ostentatious sets. Such films encourage the impressionable youth to imitate the heroes and heroines. They remain under the illusion that both emotions and wealth can be achieved by force. In order to initiate the glamour shown on the screen, the youth (including people from respectable families) sometimes are led to commit thefts and robberies of various kinds. Many times, crimes against women are also the result of what the young men see in films. On the whole Hindi cinema gives a sanction to the use of violence in real life.

But one cannot really say that Hindi films are mostly responsible for the increasing crime in society. There are many other factors that contribute to the spurt in anti-social activities. India has witnessed an unprecedented increase in population and there has been an increase in unemployment. Job creation cannot keep pace with the number of people that are churned out every year from universities and professional colleges. Thus, every year the number of people who remain frustrated with the situation increases. This leads to a desperation to achieve the luxuries of the world through other means. Poverty remains a major problem. The poor wallow in their frustration and resort to unsocial activities at times to find a quicker route to attain means to sustain themselves. The country is also faced by unhealthy, congested and polluted living environments which pressurises people physically and psychologically and increases frustration in society. Housing problem remains a predominant source of depression. Perhaps most of all, widespread corruption is a source of extreme frustration and depression in society. To say that cinema alone or cinema predominantly is responsible for increasing violence in society is like closing your eyes to all other problems in society.

JAMMU AND KASHMIR

EC decision on Poll Challenged

EVEN as Prime Minister Narasimha Rao's poll package was rejected by National Conference Leader Farooq Abdullah and all the mainstream political parties, barring the Congress, cynics termed Rao's offer as a "farce from Faso". It was Rao's masterstroke. He announced from foreign soil a package far removed from the pre-1953 status demanded by Farooq Abdullah, and also made it appear that the Cabinet independently decided to hold elections in his absence. And then the final decision was left to the Election Commission (EC).

After visiting the Valley to judge the ground situation the EC on November 10, 1995 unanimously rejected the Cabinet's recommendation for holding assembly elections in the trouble-torn State in December. The EC's decision was apparently influenced by the NC's resolve to boycott the polls which left the Congress as the only major party willing to enter the fray.

Meanwhile the Supreme Court has been petitioned by J & K Panthers Party President Bhim Singh, challenging the EC's decision to withhold elections in the State. In all probability the Government is also toying with the idea of petitioning the Supreme Court similarly.

INDIA-BURKINA FASO

India offers help in economic development

PRIME Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao arrived at Burkina Faso on November 2, 1995 on the first leg of a three-nation tour. Mr Rao during his talks with Burkina Faso President Mr Blaise Compaore offered to assist the tiny West African State in its economic development, particularly in agriculture, handloom, mining, irrigation and small scale industries, as the two countries opened a new chapter in bilateral relations. Mr Rao was the first Indian pre-

Recent Economic News

Reliance vs. the BSE

The Reliance vs. Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) controversy in fact started when BSE directors created a fuss about 40,000 duplicate share certificates which equal 0.01 per cent of RIL equity capital valued at around Rs 1 crore against the total capitalisation of Rs 10,000 crores. The BSE suspended trading in RIL shares for three days. This angered the Ambanis who declared on November 27, that they would delist Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) from the Bombay Stock Exchange. This created a furore in the market because it could render the BSE Sensex meaningless which was expected to witness a fall of about 200 points. RIL's importance can be seen from the fact that out of a total market capitalisation of BSE of 720,368 (as on 27-11-1995), RIL possessed 335.89 shares having market capitalisation of 74,856. After the BSE suspended trading, RIL lodged complaints with BSE, SEBI and the Finance Ministry. These appeals fell on deaf ears.

Meanwhile, institutional investors declared that they would oppose any move by the Ambanis to delist shares of RIL from BSE. Institutional investors hold about 18 per cent of RIL equities, and have two nominees of LIC and ICICI representing the institutions on the company's board. Though legally on firm grounds, the move by RIL was decried by institutions—both foreign and Indian. Most people also felt that Reliance did not handle the issue to the satisfaction of the investors. Reliance declared virtual war on the BSE by sending strong notices for delisting of four firms. Irrespective of the delisting issue, BSE decided to remove the Reliance scrip from the sensitive and other BSE indices shortly. The BSE Sensitive Index continued dropping and touched a new 52-week low of 2891.45 points on November 29. Crash in share values during the past few days was led by RIL and State Bank which witnessed panic and continued bear hammering over the recent developments.

In the utter that Reliance wrote seeking delisting of its companies, the company accused BSE of singling them out for biased and prejudiced action. They said that two directors, inimical to RIL and connected to its business rivals were conducting a vilification campaign against the company in an effort to maintain its position with the public. Reliance also carried out a press note explaining what duplicate shares are and why they are issued. It also pointed out that the entire controversy was the result of a vilification campaign carried out by their business rivals.

At the time of writing of this note (Nov 30), the latest on this issue was that SEBI came up definite guidelines on fraudulent practices—specifically, on what 'market manipulation', 'misleading statement', 'unfair trade practice' and 'hoax' would imply. According to a senior executive director of SEBI, Mr C.K. Singh, the norms would ensure that manipulative practices would be curbed and that there is orderly growth of the market.

Meanwhile, the Finance Department of the Union Finance Ministry set up a special cell to look into the RIL case and any corporate law breach in the region. Meanwhile, Finance Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh announced that he would on Monday visit the Government of RIL. Clearly, RIL is being treated as a special case.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

NATIONAL

mier to visit Burkina Faso.

INDIA-FRANCE

India cancels business meeting

THE ninth meeting of the Indo-French joint economic commission scheduled to take place in New Delhi on 22-23 November, 1995, was cancelled by the Indian government. While no official reason was given, it was surmised that the cancellation is linked to the French government's decision to sell 40 Mirage 2000-S jets to Pakistan for an estimated \$ 5 billion.

India had protested to France when Paris decided to sell three Agosta class submarines to Pakistan in September 1994. On the issue of arms sale, the French position has been that they would be willing to sell them to India too.

INDIA-GHANA

India's stand over Kashmir gets support

MR Rao concluded his three-nation tour after his visit to Ghana on 8-9 November, 1995. Mr Rao's talks with the Ghanaian President Mr Rawlings covered issues relating to terrorism, extradition, South-South cooperation, UN reforms and ways of boosting Indo-Ghana relations. Kashmir also figured briefly in the talks and Ghana supported India to resolve the issue with Pakistan under the Shimla agreement through bilateral relations.

INDIA-CHINA

Agree to resolve "problems left over from the past"

INDIA and China agreed to solve the "problems left over from history", and also embark simultaneously on the road to greater economic co-operation, taking advantage of the economic opportunities offered by the "large markets" that the two countries have.

While External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee specifically mentioned the "problems arising out of border disputes" while welcoming Qio Shi, Chairman of the standing committee of the National Peoples Congress of China, the latter, in keeping with the known Chinese line, did not make a direct reference.

Nevertheless, Mr Qio Shi—the third-highest ranking leader from China—said he hoped to solve "problems left over from the past, because those were not of our making, in our generation".

INDIA-NAMIBIA

Pacts for trade, water project

INDIA and Namibia signed two pacts for further growth of bilateral trade and setting up a potable water project in the South African State. The visiting Namibian Prime Minister, Mr Hege Geingob said Namibia's Export Processing Zone offers exporters a range of internationally competitive advantages and identified a number of investment projects in the areas of agro-industries, fisheries, service and tourism sectors and infrastructure.

Mr Geingob supported India's candidature for a permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council and favoured democratisation of this prestigious policy-making body.

UTTAR PRADESH

BJP sweeps civic polls

THE BJP virtually swept the civic elections in UP on November 28, 1995 by winning eight out of 11 Mayoral posts, and capturing over 80 per cent of *Nagarpalika* and *Parishad* Chairmen's seats.

The breakup of the Samajwadi Party-Bahujan Samaj Party alliance was one of the main reasons for a swing in favour of the BJP. The alliance had enabled Mr Mulayam Singh Yadav to prevent the return of the BJP to power in November 1993

assembly elections.

It is premature to read too much into these results because the elections were limited to urban areas which are BJP strongholds. Moreover the SP is in the process of realigning with the JD to marginalise the BJP in UP which will be instrumental in fashioning the outcome of the next general elections.

JUDICIARY

Judges are Independent of Govt : SC

IN a significant judgement to insulate the judiciary from executive influence, the Supreme Court on November 24, 1995 held that the relationship between a High Court Judge and the Government cannot be described as one of master and servant, and judges of the higher judiciary cannot therefore be said to hold a post under the Centre or State.

The ruling was made by the Court while dismissing an appeal by the Union of India against a Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) order, which held that Justice Pratibha Bonnerjee, a direct recruit judge of the Calcutta High Court, did not hold a pensionable post with the Government and was therefore entitled to pen-

Private Mutual Funds

The RBI has relaxed the existing guide lines for money market mutual funds (MMMFs) to make it more attractive and provide greater liquidity and depth to the money market. In a major move, the Central bank has permitted private sector mutual funds to set up MMMFs. At the same time, the RBI has also done away with the floor on the size of mutual funds and investment limits on individual instruments. The relaxations are aimed at greater public participation in the secondary debt market. MMMFs will issue their unit/shares only to individuals and not corporates.

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sion applicable to judges of the High Court even though she had retired a Vice-Chairman of CAT.

PUNJAB

SC orders probe into cremations

CALLING it "a most gory violation of human rights", the Supreme Court on November 15, 1995 ordered a high-level investigation by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) into the allegations that bodies of over 25,000 persons lying unclaimed and unidentified had been "unceremoniously" cremated by the Punjab Police between 1984 and 1994.

It also ordered a CBI probe into the alleged abduction and consequent disappearance of Shiromani Akali Dal leader and human rights activist Jaswant Singh Khalra from Amritsar. Khalra's wife suspected the involvement of Tarn Taran district superintendent of police in the mysterious disappearance and likely liquidation of her husband.

LAW

SC ruling puts doctors under Consumer Act

THE Supreme Court on November 13, 1995, held that the service rendered by a medical practitioner (except where it is rendered free of charge or under a contract of personal service) would fall within the ambit of "service" as defined in the Consumer Protection Act and that patients who received deficient services by the medical profession and hospitals were entitled to claim damages under the Act.

A likely upshot of this ruling would be a hike in doctors' fees, who will also prescribe more diagnostic tests to avoid mistakes. More doctors will now be inclined to take up insurance as a safeguard.

Recent Economic News

Plan to tap Euro-dollar market by Railway

In the wake of failure to mobilise resources from the domestic market, the cash-strapped Railways have decided to tap the foreign capital market for raising 150 million dollars through external commercial borrowing for funding railway projects. This decision to raise money from abroad follows the failure of the Indian Railway Finance Corporation to tap the domestic market because of unfavourable conditions.

Minister of State for Railways Suresh Kalmadi said the Build-Operate-Lease-Transfer (BOLT) scheme will have to be modified and marketed afresh if the railways hoped to attract private investment. The own-your-wagon scheme appears to have generated a better response than BOLT, but Mr Kalmadi said investors could be offered better terms.

TELECOM

Sops for rural telephone users

IN an obvious pre-election move, the government on November 22, 1995 announced a series of attractive concessions to subscribers of telecom services in the rural, hilly and tribal areas.

The highlights of the "rural package" are: registration package fee lowered by half to Rs 1,000; bi-monthly rental brought down to Rs 100 from Rs 150; free calls per billing increased to 250 from 150; call charges for 200 additional calls (over and above the 250 free calls) lowered by 25 per cent. Other incentives include a hike in commission paid to Panchayats for operating local PCOs and for STD PCOs in rural and hilly/tribal areas.

By announcing these measures now the government has avoided invoking the Election Commission's code of conduct which imposes a blanket ban on populist measures by ruling parties before elections.

Prasar Bharati Act to be amended

THE Centre will soon make necessary amendments in the *Prasar Bharati* Act which aims at providing greater autonomy to the government-controlled media. Union Information and Broadcasting minister P.A. Sangma has said that the Act had been passed rather hurriedly and that in its present form was not a workable

one. He expressed doubts on whether the legislation, which suggested the setting up of a broadcasting corporation, would ensure autonomy to the institution.

A more articulate and specific policy, keeping in view the revolutionary changes faced by the information technology and the exposure of India to foreign media is needed, according to Mr Sangma.

RUPEE SLIDE

Intervention has paid : RBI Governor

THE RBI Governor, Chakravarty Rangarajan, said that faced with the rupee slide he had formulated three objectives : to maintain stability in the foreign exchange market; to maintain a reasonable degree of price stability; and to

Forex reserves slump

The Indian foreign exchange reserves fell sharply to \$ 21.89 billion on November 3, 1995 from \$ 23.37 in the first week of October 1995, according to the Reserve Bank of India. Excluding the gold and SDRs, the foreign currency assets fell to \$ 17,451 million in October, 1995 from \$ 18,959 million in September 1995. In October, 1994 the assets stood at \$ 19,598 million.

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make available credit to support a fast-growing economy.

The RBI intervention had kept the dollar below Rs 35 and the forward premia which had already declined would drop further as exporters come back to the market.

Sustained intervention by the RBI of over Rs 5,100 crore cooled the market and call rates were pegged down at 10 to 12 per cent.

Earlier, on November 11, 1995 the RBI announced a reduction of half per cent in the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) to 14.5 per cent, aimed at injecting a measure of liquidity in the banking system. The move was expected to augment banks' resources by Rs 2,000 crore.

EDUCATION

Open Universities come of age

OPEN and distance education has come of age in India with its first open university, the Indira Gandhi Open University (IGNOU), completing ten years in November 1995. IGNOU today is a focal point of distance learning and is among the top ten such institutions in the world.

IGNOU was opened in 1985 to provide opportunities of higher learning to the educationally disadvantaged groups like working people, housewives and those living in far flung places, who could not avail this opportunity in the early life.

Since 1985 four other open Universities have opened. These are: Dr B.R. Ambedkar University in Hyderabad, Yashwant Rao Chavan University in Nasik, Nalanda University in Patna and Kota University in Kota (Rajasthan).

LAW & ORDER

Violence against women to be curbed

ACCORDING to the draft national policy on women, the government is

determined to curb all forms of violence against women, girls and adolescent girls in private and public places and promote the positive portrayal of women.

There is a proposal to make public servants responsible for the administration of law and order to be made specifically accountable for enforcing laws relating to excesses on women.

The draft said that it would be the endeavour of the government to ensure that women and men enjoyed, in practice, equal rights, equal access to and control over productive resources, education, health, land, other forms of property, information, knowledge, skills, technology and markets by adopting positive and affirmative action.

The draft also said that the government recognised the importance of support services for the empowerment and advancement of women and this was being appropriately reflected in sectoral policies and programmes.

TIBET

China selects new Panchen Lama

THE Dalai Lama has appealed to the Human Rights Commission to intervene and find out not only the whereabouts of the reincarnation of the tenth Panchen Lama, the six-year-old Gedhun Choekyi Nyima anointed by him, but also whether he was allegedly being tortured under detention by the Chinese authorities. Meanwhile, Tibetan monks and Chinese leaders held their own rituals to choose the reincarnation and set up a confrontation with followers of the Dalai Lama.

Tibetans in India to get registered: Tibetan authorities have been asked to ensure that all Tibetans aged over 18, including those who crossed into India at any time, are issued registration cards to prevent any chances of espionage on either the Dalai Lama or the Tibetan government-in-exile based at Dharamsala in Kangra district.

SRI LANKA

LTTE's Jaffna bastion captured

SRI Lankan troops captured the Tamil rebel bastion of Northern Jaffna town on December 2, 1995, the 46th day of a bloody offensive that has left over 500 soldiers and 1900 militants dead and 500,000 civilians homeless.

The troops took control of the town, once the centre of Tamil culture and erudition and, of late, a symbol of Tamil militancy, when they captured the 400-year-old Dutch-built Jaffna Fort and the surrounding areas. The trapped rebels were left with the choice of either surrendering or committing suicide by swallowing cyanide.

The army's Operation Riviresa (Sunrays), which began on October 17, 1995, was the biggest ever operation undertaken by the Sri Lankan forces, and the capture of Jaffna is a big psychological victory for the troops, whose fighting qualities have till now been under doubt. It may, however, take a few more days to complete the operation and establish full control on Jaffna.

Ever since the IPKF left Sri Lanka in March 1990, no one believed that Jaffna could be retaken from the LTTE, least of all the LTTE themselves. From here they ran a parallel administration and collected taxes in the manner of a sovereign state. Now, with a terrible loss of face, LTTE supremo remains elusive. While there are reports of his having sneaked abroad, he may well be regrouping in the nearby jungles.

The LTTE motive in engineering the massive flow of refugees away from Jaffna was to generate socio-economic pressures and heighten ethnic tensions elsewhere in Sri Lanka, thereby altering the centre of gravity for the time being.

While Prabhakaran has already dismissed negotiations at gun point, a lot will depend on how President Kumaratunga capitalises on the military success. India has wisely stayed aloof in spite of a show

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of solidarity within Tamil Nadu.

BOSNIA

Tenuous Peace

THE presidents of Bosnia, Serbia and Croatia on November 21, 1995 in Dayton, Ohio initialled a peace agreement that would end the three-and-a-half year Balkan war and provide for a unified Bosnian State.

The US-sponsored accord will make Bosnia a single State with a common president and parliament, but in effect it will have two components—Serbs, making up 32 per cent of the population, will hold over 45 per cent of the territory, constituting the autonomous Serb republic (SRPSKA); the remaining territory will form a Croat-Bosnian Muslim federation, the Bosnian Muslims being 42 per cent of the population and Croats 18 per cent.

While the Bosnian Muslims have got Sarajevo as undivided capital under their control, they have no outlet to the sea. The Serbs, on the other hand, have got the corridor connecting Serb portions as a contiguous entity. Also, due to the ethnic cleansing, any elections will produce a majority of Serb and Croat members in parliament, circumscribing the powers of a Bosnian Muslim president. This is certain to create problems in the long run.

Already the Bosnian Serbs have aired their dissatisfaction over Sarajevo and rejected the plan. Mr Radovan Karadzic and his General Ratko Mladic—both indicted by a war tribunal and denied a role in future governance—are giving indications of a comeback.

Meanwhile the UN Security Council has voted to withdraw the UN's last peacekeepers from the Balkan by January 31, 1996, even as the NATO prepares to get its men into place. The Balkan leaders plan to sign a Bosnia peace package in Paris on December 14, 1995.

While the entire US plan appears to be aimed at boosting Clinton's re-election prospects and preventing the emergence

of a third Muslim State in Europe, a lot will depend on the organisation of peace-keeping. Congressional Republicans have agreed reluctantly to endorse Clinton's proposal to send 20,000 US troops as part of 60,000 strong NATO force, in which Russian troops will also participate.

AFGHANISTAN

Masood forces stall Taliban advance outside Kabul

AFTER advancing through the South-eastern and central provinces of Afghanistan, the Pakistan-backed Taliban's advance has been stalled on the outskirts of Kabul. Having almost isolated the Afghan capital from three sides, the Taliban has been saturating the city from three sides.

Forces loyal to president Burhanuddin Rabbani have held out against the Taliban onslaught, and it has been estimated that he would be in a position to offer increased resistance. Masood's launching of a counter-attack on the road to Maidan Shahr has somewhat improved his defensive posture, apart from providing relief to his troops.

Meanwhile the mediation bid by UN special envoy Mahmoud Meistri has not made any headway with both sides laying preconditions, even as US deputy assistant secretary Robin Raphel visited the war-torn country.

Now with the winter having descended and the mountains around Kabul being snow-capped, Ahmed Shah Masood may be able to hold out much longer against the Taliban, Rashid Dostan and Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, whose combined onslaught had made it appear that the fall of Kabul was imminent.

Meanwhile the suffering of civilians in Kabul has heightened. More than 150 people have lost their lives in the month of November alone in rocket attacks directed by the Taliban militia.

COMMONWEALTH SUMMIT

THE 52-member Commonwealth, in an unprecedented action on November 11, 1995, suspended Nigeria from membership of the group after the Nigerian military regime executed writer and human rights activist Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight others despite international appeals for clemency.

Saro-Wiwa, noted writer and widely called African Gandhi, and the other eight minority rights campaigners were sentenced to death by a secret tribunal over the murder in 1994 of four pro-government Ogoni tribal chiefs.

Saro-Wiwa insisted he had been framed for political reasons by General Sani Abacha's military regime.

The Commonwealth leaders meeting in Auckland opted to suspend rather than expel Nigeria from the body, allowing for possible readmission or expulsion depending on whether the oil-rich West African nation cleans up its poor human rights record.

Ambassadors from 22 countries had left or were set to leave Nigeria in the wake of Saro-Wiwa's execution, even as the European Union was urged to impose an oil embargo on Nigeria to put pressure on its military rulers. British Prime Minister John Major announced a total ban on British defence exports to Nigeria as punishment.

Pakistan snubbed: Pakistan President Farooq Ahmed Leghari was snubbed when he sought to raise the Kashmir issue at the summit. He was firmly told by the chair not to raise bilateral matters at such gatherings.

The meet ended with a communique recommitting the group to democracy, development and a respect for human rights.

The communique welcomed a reaffirmation by the military rulers of Sierra Leone to hold democratic elections in early 1996 and offered help to the Gambia, the third Commonwealth country under military rule, to make the tran-

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sition to democracy after polls planned for July 1996.

The leaders expressed deep disappointment at the political stalemate in Cyprus and called for the speedy withdrawal of all Turkish forces and settlers from the divided island.

USA

Clinton, Congress agree for 7-year balanced budget

OVER seven lakh federal workers returned to work on November 20, 1995 after the White House and the Republican Congress hammered out broad outlines of a deal to balance the budget by 2002 and end the longest-ever federal shutdown.

President Bill Clinton agreed to Republican demands for a balanced budget in seven years instead of the 10 years he proposed, but won their pledge to protect medicare, education and other domestic programmes from deep spending cuts.

The deal ended an unprecedented six-day partial shutdown of the US government which closed federal offices across the country, slowed down embassies around the world and even shut the Grand Canyon in Arizona for the first time ever.

Hailed by both sides as a victory, the accord will keep the government operating through December 15, giving Clinton and the Republicans nearly a month to craft a long-term federal tax and spending plan.

ASIA-PACIFIC

Blueprint for free trade

THE APEC forum leaders on November 19, 1995 at Osaka adopted a blueprint for achieving free trade in the region over the next quarter century. The 18-member group adopted nine principles as the basis of liberalisation to achieve the long-term goal of free and open trade and investment no later than the year 2010 in the case of industrialised economies and the year 2020 in the case of

developing economies. The principles are:

■ **Comprehensiveness:** The process will address all barriers to free and open trade and investment without exclusions.

■ **WTO consistency:** Steps taken by APEC members will be consistent with the newly established World Trade Organisation.

■ **Non-discrimination:** APEC economies will endeavour to apply the principle of non-discrimination between and among themselves, and the outcome of regional liberalisation will reduce barriers not only among APEC members but also between APEC and non-members.

■ **Transparency:** Members will ensure their trade laws and rules are transparent.

■ **Flexibility:** Considering the different levels of development and the diversity among members, the liberalisation process can be flexible.

■ **Cooperation:** Economic and technical cooperation will be actively pursued.

■ **Simultaneous start:** Members will simultaneously and without delay start liberalising their economies and continue to do so over the next 25 years.

■ **Standstill:** Each member will try to refrain from increasing levels of protection.

■ **Comparability:** Members will try to ensure the overall comparability of their individual liberalisation steps, taking into account the general level each has already achieved.

China stole the limelight by promising a dramatic opening of its markets from next year. It has planned to cut tariffs on imports to its market of 1.2 billion people by 30 per cent from 1996.

Security alliance: US Defence Secretary William Perry broke a long taboo about discussing military issues in the organisation by suggesting that it is time for APEC to expand from an economic group to a security alliance.

Despite emerging military clout and a host of unresolved security issues in the region, the APEC forum has since its 1989 launch stayed away from defence issues, mostly out of fears the sensitive issue could fracture the already

unwieldy 18-member grouping.

G-15 SUMMIT

Mechanism for cooperation in trade

THE fifth Group of Fifteen (G-15) summit was held at Buenos Aires from 6-7 November, 1995. The two-day summit of the six-year old group with representatives from the Asia, Latin America and Africa focussed on greater business interaction among member States even as these countries tried to formulate a strategy for international economic cooperation beyond year 2000.

India, represented by Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, took the lead in forming the Committee on Trade, Investment and Technology, and prepared a draft after the decision at last year's New Delhi summit to have a continuing mechanism to promote trans-regional arrangements and broaden the scope of intra G-15 cooperation.

The G-15 leaders stressed the need for a constructive dialogue with the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialised countries, and deliberated on the international situation and its impact on developing countries. An earlier attempt to engage in dialogue with the G-7 nations was a non-starter. At the G-7 meeting in Japan last year, both the Non-aligned Movement (NAM) and the G-15 vied with each other in seeking to represent the Third World in a dialogue on its behalf.

Talks with Argentine leaders: After the summit Mr Rao held bilateral talks with Argentine leaders including the President, Mr Carlos Menem. Three agreements including one for promotion of bilateral investments were signed.

PAKISTAN

Blast kills six Egyptian embassy officials

TWO powerful blasts triggered by a suicide attack in a car full of explosives

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wrecked the Egyptian embassy in Islamabad on November 19, 1995 killing at least six people and wounding several others.

Egypt's largest Moslem militant organisation, al-Gaama al-Islamiya (Islamic Group), claimed responsibility for the powerful bomb blast. Al-Gaama has been leading a three-year campaign of violence to overthrow President Hosni Mubarak's government and establish a strict Islamic State.

The incident is seen as a fallout of Islamabad's dogged pursuit of exporting the heroin-Kalashnikov culture across its frontiers to India and Pakistan.

Religious workers rounded up: In a swoop on November 21, 1995 several hundred workers and leaders of at least four religious parties were rounded up. Federal Home Minister Naseerullah Babar said it had nothing to do with the blast in the Egyptian embassy.

Gen Babar also mentioned that the International Islamic University in Islamabad had become a hotbed of terrorists—of Middle-East origin—and that he would close it down if he could.

Not surprisingly, this has infuriated religious leaders because the university—financed by many Arab countries jointly with Pakistan—has been a symbol of Islamic solidarity. It is doubtful if Pakistani leaders can now bottle the genie. The full impact of Gen Zia ul-Haq's Islamisation drive is bound to be felt by Pakistan and the world in the coming years.

Benazir blames West: Ms Benazir Bhutto has meanwhile claimed that terrorist groups threatening Muslim countries were getting arms and active support from the West. In an interview to the Middle-East Broadcasting Corporation, Ms Bhutto said she would not allow terrorists to operate from Pakistan soil against any country, particularly a "Muslim country".

Ms Bhutto, under increasing pressure from Egypt, other moderate Arab States, the US and the West to crackdown on foreign mercenaries, particularly Arab fun-

damentalists, operating from Pakistan, said terrorism in Pakistan was the tool left behind by authoritarian and dictatorial rule.

EUROPEAN UNION

Ministers defer decision on Euro-currency to '98

THE European Union finance ministers failed at Brussels on November 28, 1995 to agree on a definite date for determining who would join the monetary union, agreeing only that the decision should be made as early as possible in 1998. The EU ministers met to wrap up the time-table for the EU's drive towards monetary union so that plans could be formally finalised at the EU summit stated for December 15-16 at Madrid.

US, EU brace for new trade war: The European Union headed for a new trade war with the United States on December 1, 1995 after ignoring Washington's end-year deadline for ending a ban on imports of hormone-treated beef. The EU farm commissioner ruled out an early end to the 1988 ban although scientific experts said natural growth hormones were not a human health risk.

NUCLEAR WEAPONS

UN adopts resolution against N-tests

THE United Nations General Assembly has strongly deplored the current nuclear testing and called for its immediate cessation. Although it did not name any country, the reference was very clear as the only two nations conducting nuclear tests at present are France and China.

In a resolution adopted on November 16, 1995 by 95 votes to 12, the assembly commended the nuclear weapons States observing moratoria and urged them to continue to do so until the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) came into force. Among the nuclear weapons

States, France, Britain and China voted against the resolution, while the US and Russia abstained. India supported the resolution but Pakistan was among the 45 members who abstained.

US, UK tell World Court to stay out of N-weapons debate

THE United States and Britain have told the World Court to stay out of the nuclear weapons debate and allow the community of nations to negotiate global nuclear disarmament.

In the hearings of the legality of nuclear weapons at The Hague on November 15, 1995, both countries asserted that there is no international or humanitarian law against using or threatening to use them.

US moots secretary-level talks on CTBT: The Clinton administration has proposed foreign secretary-level talks between India and the US to narrow differences on the issue of CTBT, under negotiation in Geneva. The proposal was made by Ms Robin Raphel, Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia, during talks with Indian officials at New Delhi.

PAKISTAN-IRAN

Split over Afghanistan, Kashmir

IRAN and Pakistan remained divided over their approach to the situation in Afghanistan and Kashmir at the end of the three-day visit of Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, her second trip to the Persian state after assuming office in 1993.

Iran rejected Ms Bhutto's argument that Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani did not reflect the wishes of the people of Afghanistan, and was non-committal to her suggestion that Kashmir be taken up as the problem of the entire Islamic world.

Iran has accused Pakistan of backing the student militia Taliban spearheading the military thrust in Afghanistan against Rabbani with alleged financial support from the United States. On the other hand, Iran's economic ties with India have widened in recent years, and in the context of unilateral

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US oil trade sanctions against Teheran, it has chosen to distance itself from Islamabad.

UK-IRELAND

Peace deal for Northern Ireland

AN unexpected summit between British premier John Major and his Irish counterpart John Bruton in London on November 29, 1995 led to a dramatic breakthrough in the stalled Ulster peace agreement, hours before US President Bill Clinton touched down to begin a historic visit to Northern Ireland.

Under the new initiative, the two governments will open separate talks with political parties in Northern Ireland, including Sinn Féin. The talks will consider an agenda and format for an all-party conference by end February 1996 to find an agreement acceptable to all. At the same time, a three-man international commission will be formed to look into the arms held by the Irish Republican Army and their handing over.

CHINA-CUBA

Castro visits China

PRESIDENT Fidel Castro arrived in Beijing on November 29, 1995 for a nine-day State visit to China at the invitation of Chinese President Jiang Zemin. This is President Castro's first visit to China since the victory of the Cuban revolution and the establishment of Sino-Cuban diplomatic relations.

Castro will take a close look at the Chinese-style market reforms and will visit the thriving financial centre at Shanghai. Mr Castro just missed meeting Vietnamese general secretary Du Muoi, who departed for other parts of China the same day.

EGYPT

Clashes over poll results

CLASHES erupted in Egypt on December 1, 1995 after the official results of

the first round of voting for Egypt's parliamentary elections were announced. The ruling National Democratic Party had swept the board and the Opposition "Muslim Brotherhood" had secured no seats thus far.

The government has repeatedly promised free and fair elections, but the Brotherhood and other opponents accused President Hosni Mubarak's ruling party of stuffing ballot boxes, barring opposition supporters and blatantly buying votes.

MYANMAR

Suu Kyi pulls out of statute panel

NOBEL Peace prize laureate and Myanmar opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi's party pulled out on November 29, 1995 of an assembly set up by Myanmar's military junta to work out a constitution. Suu Kyi's opposition National League for Democracy said they withdrew from the conference because most of the 700 delegates had been picked up by the government.

She had previously criticised the conference, saying it was undemocratic. The meeting was the assembly's first since she was freed from six years' house arrest in July 1995. The military government warned her not to disturb or postpone the discussions.

SAUDI ARABIA

Five Americans die in Riyadh blasts

TWO explosions, possibly from car bombs, destroyed a building housing American and Saudi military personnel at Riyadh on November 13, 1995, killing at least six people and wounding 60. Five of the dead were Americans.

The building was used by American military personnel who assist in the train-

ing of the Saudi National Guard. Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil exporter, has been a close ally of the US for decades, and the two nations have close military ties. Muslim fundamentalists, however, oppose the presence of American and other non-Muslim forces in the kingdom—home to Islam's holiest shrines.

ARMS RACE

Pentagon sees West Asia missiles as threat to South Asia

MISSILES and other weapons of mass destruction, which are spreading in the Middle East, threaten South Asia too, according to the Pentagon. It said the US must be prepared to counter, by force if necessary, violent manifestations of radical Islam or terrorism in the Middle East.

The defence department emphasises that there would remain major threats to US interests even if there was peace between the Arabs and Israelis. These views, which form the basis of US policy, were published on the orders of defence secretary William Perry, who wanted US strategy to be made available in concise form to all policy makers for different regions, and to the public.

ALGERIA

Voters reject fundamentalism

LIAMINE Zeroual was elected President of Algeria with 61.34 per cent of the vote on November 17, 1995. Zeroual, a 54-year-old retired general was appointed President last year to guide the government through its transition to democracy. In giving President Zeroual an overwhelming mandate the voters defied Muslim fundamentalists who had left close to 40,000 people dead in four years of militancy and now threatened to disrupt the polls.

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POLAND

Walesa defeated, voters challenge election

POLISH President Lech Walesa, the former Solidarity Trade Union leader, was defeated by a former communist Aleksander Kwasniewski by a margin of just 3.44 per cent in a presidential run-off on November 19, 1995.

However, more than 600,000 voters protested to Poland's Supreme Court alleging that Kwasniewski beat Walesa on the basis of cheating and that the elections be annulled. The articulate Kwasniewski had presented himself as much more educated and qualified than the former shipyard electrician Walesa, but a week before the vote his old university refuted his claim to having a higher education.

HONG KONG

China to establish shadow government

BEIJING will set up a shadow government in Hong Kong to shape policy, draft bills and prepare budgets in the British colony prior to its mid-1997 reversion to China. Sir Sze-yuen Chung, a member of China's hand-picked Preliminary Working Committee, said a Provisional Government Secretariat with a few hundred staff would be set up late next year or early in 1997.

Chung has acknowledged that the establishment of a second power centre in Hong Kong in the final stage of transition could cause concern. Chung is tipped to be the first post-colonial governor or chief executive.

CHINA-VIETNAM

Strengthening bilateral ties

TERRITORIAL disputes notwithstanding, China and Vietnam have decided

to further strengthen their bilateral relations. Vietnamese Communist party general secretary Do Muoi visiting Beijing had detailed discussions with Chinese leaders on November 26-27, 1995.

The two countries severed diplomatic relations after China attacked Vietnam in 1978 and the two countries fought a bitter war over territorial disputes. After a lapse of 14 years, both countries re-established diplomatic relations in 1992 and have since then taken several steps to shelve bilateral tensions and strengthen cooperation, particularly in economic fields.

Presently, the bone of contention between the two countries is the sovereignty over the oil and mineral rich Spratly Islands in the South China Sea. Vietnam and Philippines have also staked their claims over some of the islands in Spratly. Pending settlement of the dispute, China has mooted joint exploitation of the mineral wealth in the islands.

BANGLADESH

Parliament dissolved

BANGLADESH Parliament was dissolved on November 24, 1995 by President Abdur Rahman Biswas, paving the way for fresh general elections early next year for the 330-member House.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia had earlier asked the President to dissolve the Parliament because the opposition parties did not respond to her appeal for taking part in free elections to 145 parliamentary seats vacated by opposition members.

Mainstream opposition parties Awami League, Jatiya Party and Jamaat-e-Islami had undertaken a 20-month-long agitation to force the prime minister to dissolve the Parliament and press for fresh elections under a neutral caretaker administration.

The victim of endless political battles in Bangladesh has been the concept of democracy which is yet to establish firm roots.

IRELAND

Vote on divorce marks break with Roman Catholic tradition

ON November 26, 1995, Irish voters decided to legalise divorce, by the narrowest of margins, defying the wishes of the church but supporting the wishes of most politicians.

The margin of vote was only 9,118 votes out of the more than 1.62 million who cast their votes in the referendum, making it the closest vote in Irish history.

Ireland was the only country in the Western world to constitutionally ban divorce. The lifting of the prohibition marks the country's sharpest break with its Roman Catholic traditions. The ban had denied an estimated 40,000 couples in broken marriages the right to remarry.

SAPTA

Now effective

THE SAARC Preferential Trading Agreement (SAPTA), which was conceived about five years back, came into effect from December 7, 1995 after ratification by all members recently. The agreement allows SAARC member countries to export listed goods to other member countries at preferential duty rates.

SINGAPORE

Leeson gets six years for Barings' collapse

LEESON, the derivator trader whose professional callousness destroyed a 233-year old bank was on December 2, 1995 ordered to spend six and a half-years in prison on two counts of cheating. The extradited Leeson was charged with fraud and forgery linked to some \$ 1.4 billion in losses which broke the bank.

Current General Knowledge

ABBREVIATION

CTBT: Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty

FPS: Family Pension Scheme, 1971

IMCD: Integrated Mother and Child Development

LCA: Light Commercial Aircraft

MMMF: Money Market Mutual Fund

AWARDS

Indira Gandhi Prize, 1995

GENERAL Olusegun Obasanjo, former head of the State of Nigeria, has been selected for the Indira Gandhi International Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 1995, for his contribution to African democracy and for international peace.

Kabir Puruskar

THE Kabir Puruskar was given to three persons: J A Rasheed (Kerala), Naseem Ahmed Siddiqui (Uttar Pradesh) and Fredrick Prakash S J (Gujarat) for their outstanding acts of courage during the December 1992 riots.

GD Birla Award, 1995

MR Girish Saran Agarwal, director of the Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, has been named recipient of the fifth GD Birla Award for Scientific Research, 1995. The award carries Rs 1 lakh in cash and a citation.

Kalinga Prize

THE Kalinga Prize for 1995 has been awarded to Mexican astrophysicist Julieta Fieero Gossman for the popularisation of science. The award is given each year by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and funded by former Orissa Chief Minister and industrialist Biju Patnaik.

Lata Award

PLAYBACK singer Talat Mahmood will be awarded this year's Lata

Mangeshkar National Award, instituted by the Madhya Pradesh government. The award carries Rs 1 lakh and a plaque.

Booker Prize

NOVELIST Pat Barker won the 1995 Booker Prize, Britain's most prestigious award, for her book *The Ghost Road*. The award consists of 20,000 pounds.

Bihari and Vachaspati Puruskar

NOTED Hindi playwright from Rajasthan, Mr Hamidulla, and well known Sanskrit author Satyavrat Shastri, were honoured with the *Bihari Puruskar* and *Vachaspati Puruskar* respectively. Mr Hamidulla received the award for his famous Hindi play *Har baar* and Prof Shastri got the award for his Sanskrit work *Shriramkirtimahakavyam*.

The *Bihari Puruskar* is meant for literary works in Hindi for writers belonging to Rajasthan. The *Vachaspati* is a national award for works in Sanskrit.

BOOKS

Nurturing Development

PUBLISHED by the World Bank and written by Ismail Serageldin, its vice president for environmentally sustainable development, it says that it is unrealistic for poor countries to aim at catching up with the affluent nations. According to Mr Serageldin, achieving per capita income levels of \$1500 to 2000 (lower middle income), coupled with sound social, economic and environmental policies within a reasonable time frame is a realistic objective.

The book advocates that poor countries should undertake major internal reform of their macroeconomic policies, focussing on human resources and the creation of an enabling environment, both politically and economically.

The Ghost Road

WRITTEN by Pat Barker, this book is the final part of the trilogy set in 1918 and tells the story of Lt Billy Prior at the end of World War I. The first book, which was part of this trilogy, was *Regeneration*, which appeared in 1991 and the second book was *The Eye in the Door*.

Naari

A collection of essays written by Humayun Azad, the book has been banned by the Bangladesh government for containing views which hurt the religious sentiments and fundamental faith of the Muslims.

CONFERENCE

'Future of hope' conference

FIFTY world leaders, thinkers and scientists from all over the globe discussed ways to create a more humane world at a five-day conference in Tokyo and Hiroshima which was held from December 4, 1995.

The conference was organised by the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity of the United States and Japanese daily Asahi Shimbun on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the end of World War 1.

Two Indians, Vice-President K.R. Narayanan and executive editor of Times of India, Mr Gautam Adhikari, were among several world leaders and Nobel laureates who attended the conference.

The participants discussed ways to resolve conflicts and tackle problems like proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, regional and ethnic conflicts, terrorism, pollution and poverty.

DEFENCE

India Develops LCA

INDIA'S own Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) rolled out in the presence of the

Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao in Bangalore on November 18, 1995.

The LCA is the first project of its kind. It is a small, highly manoeuvrable, cost effective and multi-role aircraft and is expected to attract the attention of the global aviation market. The first two prototypes are fitted with the US made General Electric engines but later the LCA would be fitted with the Indian made Kaveri engine.

The LCA is a single engine tail-less aircraft with Delta platform having a length of 13.2 metres, wing span of 8.2 metres and height of 4.4 metres. It can carry external stores upto 4000 kg. Close combat and Beyond Visual Range (BVR) missiles, conventional bombs and electronic warfare and sensor pods are some of the characteristics that make it a formidable weapon platform.

The LCA integrates modern design concepts and state-of-the-art systems especially suited for Indian tropical conditions. It will be subject to extensive tests for one year before its first flight. Seven prototypes have been planned for flight testing of the LCA leading to initial operation clearance by 2002.

Nag missile flight successfully tested

INDIA has successfully flight-tested a state-of-the-art propulsion system for third generation 'fire and forget' anti-tank guided Nag Missile.

The Light-Weight Propulsion System indigenously designed by the Defence Research Development Laboratory (DRDL) in Hyderabad, has separate booster and sustainer motors and uses low-smoke, high energy nitramine as propellant.

The propellant, developed by scientists at the High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL), Pune, is superior to both conventional double-base and composite propellants and is mechanically strong to withstand high pressure loads. The propulsion system is designed for operating over a wide temperature range—extreme low to high temperatures.

India is among a handful of countries in the world who have taken up the

task of designing an indigenous third generation Anti-Tank Guided Missiles (ATGM).

PERSONS

Sareen, Air Marshal Satish Kumar

VICE-Chief of Air Staff Air Marshal Satish Kumar Sareen, has been appointed the next Chief of Air Staff.

Air Marshal Sareen was commissioned as a fighter pilot on May 29, 1957 and has the unique distinction of heading the two most operational commands as well as the office of the Vice-Chief of Air Staff. He was Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the New Delhi-based Western Air Command (WAC). Before that he headed the Jodhpur-based South Western Air Command.

PROJECT

200 MW solar power plant for Jaisalmer

THE Rajasthan Government has entered into an agreement with Energen International Ltd to set up a solar thermal power project in Jaisalmer to generate 200 MW of power.

The company, a consortium of Sri Lanka and Germany based two companies, with Larsen and Tubro as its Indian partner, will sell entire power produced by the plant to Rajasthan State Electricity Board (RSEB), at a rate of Rs 2.25 per unit during the next 25 years.

SPACE

Atlantis, Mir dock above the earth

US space shuttle Atlantis docked with the Russian space station Mir for the second time in a risky manoeuvre 392 km above the earth, on November 16, 1995. This was more complicated and dangerous than the first link up because of the 4.5 km docking tunnel jutting out of the shuttle cargo bay. Both spacecraft were orbiting the earth at the rate of 28,000 kph and a collision would have been fatal. Shuttle commander Kenneth Cameron slowly steered the Atlantis under Mir, avoiding the maze of solar panels. Chris Hadfield, a Canadian astronaut aboard the Atlantis, called the docking "a ballet of

concentrated effort".

UN

S. Korea, Egypt elected to UN Council

SOUTH Korea, Chile, Egypt, Guinea-Bissau and Poland were elected as non-permanent members of the UN and begin their two-year term on January 1, 1996. They replace Oman, Rwanda, Argentina, the Czech Republic and Nigeria.

MISCELLANY

CBI academy starts functioning

THE Central Bureau of Investigation now has its own training academy with state-of-the-art facilities designed to equip personnel for varied nature of probe being carried out by the premier agency.

The academy is planned on the lines of American Federal Bureau of Investigation and Scotland Yard of Britain and incorporates best features of similar institutes abroad.

The principal of the academy, Mr Debasis Bagchi, said the institute will be the only one of its kind in Asia offering wide-range of short and long duration courses designed both for conventional crimes and special crimes including economic offences.

Dudhwa rhino project a success

THE rhino reintroduction project started at the Dudhwa national park in Uttar Pradesh a decade ago has largely been a success despite a few setbacks. The rhinos at Dudhwa seem to have settled down well into their new home.

The project had targeted establishing 25 rhinos within five years of the reintroduction programme, but the reluctance of the Assam Government to part with more rhinos and the lack of initiative by the officials caused inordinate delays in achieving this.

The one-horned rhinoceros was put on the list of endangered animals of IUCN and on schedule 1 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972. Dudhwa national park was chosen for the country's most ambitious reintroduction project. An area of 90 sq km in south Sonaripur and Bellaraein range of the Dudhwa national park was identified as a most suitable area for the rhinos.

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**REGISTRATION FOR FEB & JULY 1996
SESSIONS IS ON**

SPORTS

ATHLETICS

Bangkok International Marathon Trophy
RIGZEN Angmo of CRPF won the Bangkok International Marathon Trophy held recently.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Championship
PUNJAB beat Bihar 76-60 to retain the 46th National Basketball Championship held at Jamshedpur

The Railways women won their eighth consecutive title, beating Maharashtra.

CRICKET

India-New Zealand series

INDIA clinched the series 1-0 against New Zealand as the rain-marred third Test ended in a draw. Leg spinner Narendra Hirwani staged a comeback as he bowled 6/59 in 31 overs in the Test.

India-New Zealand One-Day Matches

INDIA won the Pepsi one-day cricket series against New Zealand 3-2. Manoj Prabhakar was declared man of the series.

Australia-Pakistan series

AUSTRALIA beat Pakistan and won the series by an innings and 126 runs in the first Test held at Brisbane. Fast bowler Glenn McGrath took 5 wickets in the second Test at Hobart to beat Pakistan by 155 runs. Spinner Shane Warne of Australia was declared man of the series.

Deodhar Trophy

NORTH Zone crushed West Zone by 81 runs to win the Deodhar Trophy match played at Indore.

Award for Tendulkar

SACHIN Tendulkar has been given the

fourth Sungrace-Mafatlal cricketer of the year award for 1994-95. This is the second time that he has got this award.

FOOTBALL

Scissors Cup

IM Vijayan played Pele's famous bicycle shot to perfection to clinch the Scissors Cup for his team, the Jagatjit Cotton Mills, Phagwara. They will receive Rs 2.50 lakh as prize money. The team beat Perils club of Malaysia.

GOLF

Gadgil Masters

GAURAV Ghei won the Gadgil Western Masters Championship at the Delhi Golf Club and received his winners cheque of \$ 8,750.

HOCKEY

Surjit Trophy

PUNJAB Police won the Surjit Trophy at the All India Surjit Memorial Hockey Championship held at Jalandhar. They beat Air India 1-0 to lift the trophy.

KORFBALL

Fifth Korfball Championship

FORMER world champions Holland won the fifth Korfball championship beating Belgium. The championship was held at the Indira Gandhi Stadium, New Delhi.

POWERLIFTING

World Powerlifting Championship

ARJUNA Award Winner E S Bhaskaran won the gold medal while Krishna Sahu bagged a silver in the senior world powerlifting championship held at Pori in Finland. Asian record holder Sandeep Sawant won a second gold

and Dadapeer added a bronze to India's tally.

SHOOTING

Commonwealth Shooting Championship
INDIA emerged champions with a tally of 12 gold, 9 silver and 4 bronze medals in the Commonwealth Shooting Championships. Jaspal Rana won 8 golds. Fateh Singh bagged 3 golds and a silver while Ashok Pandit got two golds and a silver and Sukhdev Singh got 2 golds.

SQUASH

Men's World Squash Championship

ENGLAND'S Del Harris and Mark Chaloner led the country to a 2-1 victory over Pakistan in the Men's World Squash Championship held at Cairo.

TENNIS

Federation Cup

SPAIN won their third straight Federation Cup as Conchita Martinez defeated Mary Joe Fernandez in two straight sets.

WEIGHTLIFTING

World Weightlifting Championships

INDIA'S Karnam Malleswari set a new world record in jerk-lifting and won 3 gold medals in the women's 54 kg class in the World Weightlifting Championships held in China.

Nameirakpam Kunjurani won a silver medal in the 46 kg class while China's Guan Hong set a world record.

Neelamsetty Laxmi won 3 silver medals in the 59 kg class. China continued to hold sway in the championship.

Greece, Turkey, Russia and China dominated the championships.

The Examiner's Guess Questions

Q. Where is the ninth International Film Festival for Children (ICYP) being held?

Ans. Hyderabad

Q. What is the rate of growth of real GDP for 1994-95 according to the latest CSO estimates?

Ans. 6.2 per cent. It was 5.3 per cent in 1993-94.

Q. What is the new cash credit ratio announced by the RBI?

Ans. The RBI has cut the cash credit ratio (CRR) by 0.5 per cent to 14.5 per cent with effect from November 11, 1995. This will release Rs 2000 crore into the system and will quell the money market rates.

Q. What is the new name of Bombay?

Ans. Mumbai.

Q. Which country has been suspended recently from the membership of the Commonwealth?

Ans. Nigeria. The country was suspended for ignoring pleas for clemency and executed human rights activist Ken Saro-

Wiwa and 8 other dissidents.

Q. What is 'Eco Action'?

Ans. 'Eco Action' is a novel experiment of building artificial reefs on the ocean bed for rejuvenating the depleting aquatic life following damage to the marine ecosystem due to indiscriminate shrimp culture over the years. It has become a success in Kerala and now in the Andhra Pradesh coast.

Q. What is the new name of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)?

Ans. The Central Technical Committee monitoring the Union government's Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) has been converted into a society and its new name is Integrated Mother and Child Development (IMCD). The ICDS had come to be known as the biggest child welfare scheme in Asia.

Q. What is known as Ajanta of the Himalayas?

Ans. The Tabo monastery in the Spiti valley of Himachal Pradesh has breathtak-

ing murals and wall paintings, and is often referred to as Ajanta of the Himalayas. It will be celebrating 1000 years of existence in 1996.

Q. What was the rate of growth of population during 1981-91?

Ans. According to the report published by the Census Commissioner of India, the national average of the rate of population growth during the decade 1981-91 was 23.79 per cent.

The Muslim population recorded faster growth than all other religions, registering a rise of 32.76 per cent. The Hindu growth was 10 per cent lower, at 22.70 per cent.

Muslim population comprised 10.88 per cent of the total in 1981 and it went up to 11.67 per cent in 1991. The Hindu population declined from 83.09 to 82.41 per cent during the same period.

Q. Where will the Commonwealth games 2002 be held?

Ans. The British industrial city of Manchester will host the 17th Commonwealth games in 2002.

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Appointments Etc

APPOINTED; ELECTED ETC

Aleksander Kwasniewski: He is the leader of the Democratic Left Alliance in Poland and has been elected as the country's President.

Shimon Peres: He has been appointed as Prime Minister of Israel. He had taken over as the acting Prime Minister following assassination of Mr Yitzhak Rabin.

Eduard Shevardnadze: He has been re-elected as the President of Georgia.

Satish Kumar Sareen: He has been appointed next Chief of Air Staff and will succeed Air Chief Marshal S K Kaul who retires on December 31.

Kailash Kohli: He has been appointed Vice Chief of Naval Staff.

Justice K Jagannatha Shetty: He has been appointed as the first Chairman of the Judicial Pay Commission Chairman.

Javier Solana: Foreign Minister of Spain, he has been appointed Secretary-General of NATO.

Dr Yehoyada Haim: He has been appointed as the Ambassador of Israel to India.

RESIGNED

CK Jaffer Sharief: Union Minister without portfolio.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

Qiao Shi: Chairman of the National Peoples' Congress (Parliament) of China.

Hage G Gengob: Prime Minister of Namibia.

Neil Armstrong: First man to land on the moon.

DIED

Dinesh Singh: Union Minister without portfolio.

public sector wage policy.

—Bangladesh President Abdur Rahman Biswas dissolves the country's National Parliament following a request of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia.

27—Eight people are killed in a parapet wall collapse at the Virbhadra Cricket Association in Nagpur.

DECEMBER

1—Industrialist and Congress MP Magunta Subbirami Reddy is shot dead by three unidentified men at Ongole in Prakasam district of Andhra Pradesh.

4—Union Home Minister, Mr S.B. Chavan, accuses USA of instigating trouble in Jammu and Kashmir.

5—Sri Lankan government announces the final capture of the rebel stronghold of Jaffna city, signalling a turning point in the 12-year war against separatist Tamil rebels.

7—INSAT-2C, the heaviest and the first exclusive Indian communication satellite, is successfully launched by an Ariane space rocket, from Kouru islands in French Guiana.

—USA rules out plebiscite to settle Kashmir issue.

EVENTS

NOVEMBER

11—The Election Commission turns down government's request to hold elections in Kashmir saying that conditions in the State were not conducive to free and fair polls.

12—Commonwealth suspends Nigeria's membership after it ignored the group's pleas for clemency and executed human rights activist Ken Saro Wiwa and eight other dissidents.

—LTTE suicide bombers make an abortive bid to storm Sri Lanka's army headquarters, killing 20 civilians.

15—Thousands of US government employees are sent home as a budget deadlock between President Bill Clinton and the Republican Congress forces much of the government to shut down.

17—Former President of South Korea, Roh Tae-Woo is arrested on charges of a major slush funds scandal.

18—First Prototype of India's Light Combat Aircraft (LCA), the smallest combat aircraft in the world, rolls out of production line at Bangalore.

20—Two bomb explosions rip through the Egyptian embassy in Islamabad killing 17 people and injuring at least 49.

—Sri Lankan forces enter the LTTE bastion of Jaffna, for the first time since 1990. 110 terrorists and 50 soldiers are killed in the fighting.

21—The US budget deadlock ends and the government starts working normally. The 8 lakh workers return to US government offices after six days of partial shutdown, the longest in the history of the US.

22—At least 30 persons are injured in a powerful bomb explosion at Connaught Place in New Delhi.

25—France is crippled by a strike by the unions to protest against a rise in indirect taxes and the government's

MILESTONES

Jacqueline Aguilera Marcano: She is the winner of the Miss World crown 1995. She is from Venezuela.

Ken Saro-Wiwa: Nigerian playwright and anti-government activist, he was executed by the military government along with eight other activists on November 12, 1995.

Roh Tae-Woo: Former President of South Korea, he has been arrested on charges of corruption.

Alisha Chinai: Pop star Alisha Chinai of the 'Made in India' fame has won the Channel [V] Viewers Choice Award.

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Dear Readers,

We received a large number of letters during the past year. In the last issue, "Dying", published in the December issue, some 400 letters from readers across the country have been received and more are pouring in. It evidently touched a nerve close to the heart of our readers. We are impressed with the maturity of thought and the eloquence of our readers. While quite a few benighted ones our culture was indeed in danger of being eclipsed, many readers echoed Lucknow reader Sd. Qaim's sentiment, "No, certainly not!"

We are happy that many readers feel so strongly about our culture. We presented both sides to the question expecting that our readers would make up their own mind. This hope was more than fulfilled, as Patna's Md Afzal Ahmed wrote, "Such quality stuff can be expected only from a super magazine like CM".

We are happy about the response of our discerning readers. Though all the letters cannot be featured in the magazine, I would like to thank all those who wrote in with their views. Coimbatore's I. Srividhya wrote that "such a feature was really needed at this time". We hope to live up to the expectations of our readers in 1996 also and look forward to receiving your comments. On behalf of everybody at CM, I would like to thank our readers for their continued interest.

With best wishes for your success,

Sincerely,

S. P. Khanna

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READERS' FORUM

The best two letters of the month, appearing in the box, have been awarded a prize of Rs 100.00 each. Readers are invited to send us their views on topics covered in this issue. The decision of the Editors will be final.

SPACE: THE FINAL FRONTIER

Our knowledge of the outer world is a handful of sand from a huge sea shore.

Rakesh Roshan Dhar
Rourkela

Insat-2C crowns the Indian space programme. After reading your cover story we feel proud of the achievements of our scientists.

Sandhya Singh
Patna

Your cover story on the world of space gave information on global and national front. Such indepth articles are indeed very valuable.

Venkatraman Elango
New Delhi

In a country where many people are illiterate and poor, the space programme is useless. We should solve our basic problems before going in for space research.

Amitava Chattopadhyay
Burdwan, West Bengal

THE RELEVANCE OF GANDHI

Gandhiji not only gave us freedom but also moral guidance. He is a man to be revered.

Pinky N Dhagia
Ahmedabad

Some people may question Gandhi's relevance today but they will come back to it. The complex world of today will strive for Gandhian simplicity some time in the future.

Avinash Kumar
Durgapur, West Bengal

One can always foulmouth Gandhiji for the sake of fame but truth remains the

truth; nobody can change that.

Sandeep Arora
Delhi

Gandhism is not static but a dynamic concept. Gandhiji's vision is indeed relevant today. It is the third rate politicians and intellectuals who cannot understand this and expound their perverted theories. But as you rightly mention, they should look at themselves before criticising anyone else.

Subhash N Choudhari
Nagpur

IS ART USELESS?

Art offers aesthetic pleasure. The aesthetic value is the shield against the argument that all art is useless.

Krishnendu Jena
Sambra, Karnataka

We cannot call art useless simply because it does not alleviate poverty or illiteracy. If that was the criteria, many things in life would be termed useless.

Ajit Kumar
Sambalpur, Orissa

INTELLECTUAL SLUMS

The mushrooming of educational institutions, having no vision of their own, is a reflection of the declining standards in education. We should get inspiration from the past, when great universities flourished in this region.

S Goutam
Ghaziabad, U P

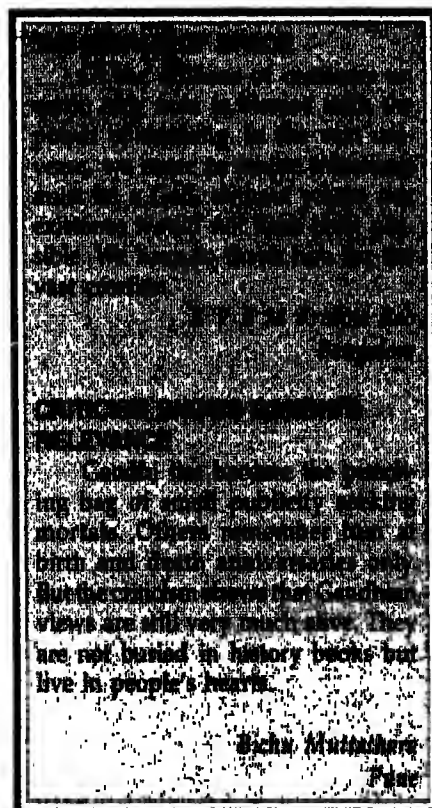
Many institutes have opened with the sole aim of making money. Education is treated like a business by these institutes, who charge large sums of money from students. There must be a way of stopping this.

Debashish Ghosh
Kotalpur, West Bengal

WHY GODMEN FLOURISH

Many people are not confident of their decisions and seek reassurance from others. This foible makes a man victim of the so called 'godmen'. One must take responsibility for one's actions to get rid of this humbug.

Prasoon Parimal
Hajipur, Bihar



DISPEL DYSPHORIA

After reading "Dispel Dysphoria" I am encouraged to make efforts to avert some of the unpleasant happenings of life.

N Narayanaswamy
Vascodagama, Goa

CM FEATURES

CM is the only magazine that caters to the requirements of youth and provides a helping hand to young people.

Abdul Qayyum Khan
New Delhi

Many thanks for introducing new features. Your magazine really helps the reader become a 'master' in the right sense.

Manish Kumar
Nainital

REQUEST TO READERS

May be you have appeared in some competitive exams recently. We shall be grateful if you could send us the question papers. All those sending the original question papers will be suitably compensated and the original papers will be returned.

—Editor

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Culture of Corruption

As if the "scamland", this country has come to be known has had a breather, now comes the telecommunication scam which according to one estimate runs over Rs 80,000 crores, benefitting just one hill station company to the tune of Rs 175 crore. This makes all other scams of the past look like pigmies in a world of the giants. The Americans call it peanuts.

Public memory is proverbially short. One Prime Minister who sought to dust off corruption as a "global phenomenon" conveniently blinked away Nagarwala episode in which she herself was involved. Since then the country has had an "impressive" array of scams ranging from one ministry to another. Whether it is sugar or agriculture, environment or information and broadcasting, there is a taint somewhere—however small. The proverbial tip of the iceberg. An amazing aspect of these sordid phenomena is that not even one guilty person has been brought to the book. Nor has anyone launched libel case against the accusers. Even the "suitcase" man is free.

Blame it on the political system (read election syndrome), ethical degradation or sheer avarice of the so-called leaders, the incontrovertible fact is that our country has become a gold mine for the greedy. The plunder, the loot, the unashamed scramble for spoils leads one to no other conclusion. The late Jawaharlal Nehru, who pompously declared that in free India corrupt people would be hanged on the nearest lamp-post, must be squirming in heaven. Mahatma Gandhi who had a clearer vision of the state of things to come, rightly suggested, even advocated, the disbanding of the ruling party from which the corruption culture has sprouted.

The culture of corruption spreads in two environments,

among others: financially 'bankrupt' people, coming to guard lakes of public funds. Two, leaders, as Mahatma Gandhi had envisaged, should not be owners but only trustees of public money. Today, the government itself is giving crores to "Trusts" of dubious distinction. The distinction between public and private money has almost vanished.

The lavish, extravagant expenditure at marriages, parties, the "Italian tiles", seizures at customs counters and fabulous gift-giving stems from the culture of corruption. This culture is

itself the perennial spring of prodigality. This, in the process, leads to disorder and illegality. A political small fry accused of murdering his wife and disposing of her body in tandoor, boasted that he had helped many judges reach their places. How would they not help him out?

Edmund Burke has said of corruption, "It loads us more than millions of debt. Takes away vigour from arms, wisdom from our councils, every shadow of authority and credit from the most vulnerable parts of our Constitution."

"The corruptions of a country are closely linked to the corruptions of its top", says Swift.

The new breed of politician, as others wielding power, has emerged as a fresh brand of elite. They are the new upper creamy layer of society. All of them have their hands in the kitty, only their methods differ. One gets a cheque of Rs 25 lakhs and another makes a tidy pile of Rs 125 crores from transfers alone. Minor cuts and commissions can be dismissed with the contempt they deserve. Think big, act big is the motto of the rulers today.

The enormous tide of corruption in the country involving the "top", as Swift says, is almost impossible to stem. Our democracy has become a kleptocracy.



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ESSAY

Cinema and Women's Image

In a recent film, *Sangeet*, Madhuri Dixit plays a middle-aged wife to Shafi Inamdar who exploits her physically, treats her like a doormat and threatens to throw her out. In one scene, he throws whisky at her face. This is shocking enough but more shocking is Madhuri's reaction—she bears it silently. Lack of reaction is typical of wife as she is shown on our screen.

Contemporary mainstream cinema portrays woman in a degrading and derogatory way. A womaniser is surrounded by a bevy of beautiful girls whereas a raped girl is looked down upon as a moral leper.

"Popular" cinema depicts man as superior. This belief in the so-called superiority of the male has been responsible for a low and lewd image of the fair sex.

Women in Hindi films are either glamorous girl-friends, sacrificing wives and mothers, vamps or nags. Whatever the role, they are a mere foil to the male. They play stereotype characters. The heroine is the darling "beti" who has either lost her father or mother when she was a kid. Or she is forced to marry against her wishes. She rebels against parents and even elopes. She can suffer any humiliation, undergo any hardship, shed copious tears but does not budge from her stand. She *thinks* with her heart! She jumps into a river, takes an 'insufficient' dose of poison and leaves her home and prefers to live with her man even in a slum. Love, she thinks, thrives on poverty! Money is filthy lucre. She is willing to be teased in parks and bursts into a lusty song. The coyness is thrown to the winds and she sprawls on the ground or makes a variety of suggestive poses with the hero. But she is supposed to be a paragon of virtue!

Another stereotype is the vamp who is beautiful. In fact, she is more beautiful than the heroine. She has a lush torso, full

bosom and seductive charms. She is the *cleavage* between the heroine and hero! She swings hips, jiggles, writhes her ample bosom, winks, seduces with a smile, dances, pours liquor and bursts into a sexy song and dance.

The present heroine, however, can over-smart her in all these gimmicks. She can tell what is *choli ke peeche* or with *dhak dhak* throw her bosom on the camera. The line between the two has blurred to extinction.

A woman in formula films is a caricature. Her portrayal means that she is incomplete and her only asset is her body. She has no mind.

In *Ishwar*, the girl suffers the taunts of her sister-in-law rather than support herself and her child. An idiot of the village halts her humiliation. An imbecile male is better than a sound-minded female!

Most "masala" films being sickening offerings at the altar of box-office, new stereotypes have to be invented. The faded tastes of the viewers want more and bigger doses of vulgarity. We have Madhuri Dixit lifting ample bosom. Now, it is the *ghagra*, the skirt or the saree of the heroine which the hero lifts or attempts at it. The heroine seems to squirm but smiles.

The hero degrades the heroine but she falls in love with her tormentor! Eve-teasing has assumed the form of eve-tormenting. Tastes have trashed. People are becoming brazen. One shop-keeper had displayed a sign board: Our birds have bigger breasts.

There have been woman-oriented movies, in which women and their problems, their status etc. are treated realistically within certain parameters. *Ankur*, *Arth*, *Bazaar*, *Umrao Jaan* have done that. In *Damini* Meenakshi Sheshadri personi-

fies character and courage. She fights for what is right but pays a price for her conviction. Dimple Kapadia played a highly sensitive role of a professional mourner in *Rudali*. That the film was gripping shows that what is wanting is directorial determination and professional skill on the part of the makers of "popular" films. Sadly, the impact of such good attempts pales before a plethora of "collective fantasies."

Formula films are divorced from real life. The progress by women in various fields and professions is seldom the focus of a full-fledged film. Rekha played a lawyer in *Yeh Aag Kab Bujhegi* and Simi Grewal in *Insaaf Ka Tarazu*. But they were essentially cameos, not control roles.

Repeated visual images do leave their mark. This is clear in the behavioural pattern of people. Instances of rapes of school children by teachers, women in police stations and sexual harassment in offices prove the point.

There should be strict censorship. One cannot help thinking that the present Board of Certification has a soft belly. Worse, it has a bark but no bite. Or should one surmise that their tastes are worse than those of the viewers?

More women should be involved in mass communication programming levels so that their point of view dilutes the male one which is biased and secretly sadistic.

A self-imposed code of ethics will simply not work in the present jungle that the film industry is. There are codes of ethics for journalists, for example, which are honoured more in the breach. Like the Press Council of India, these will have a bark, no bite.

Credibility in film comes from a good story, a comprehensive screenplay and an imaginative director. Our formula films lack all three.



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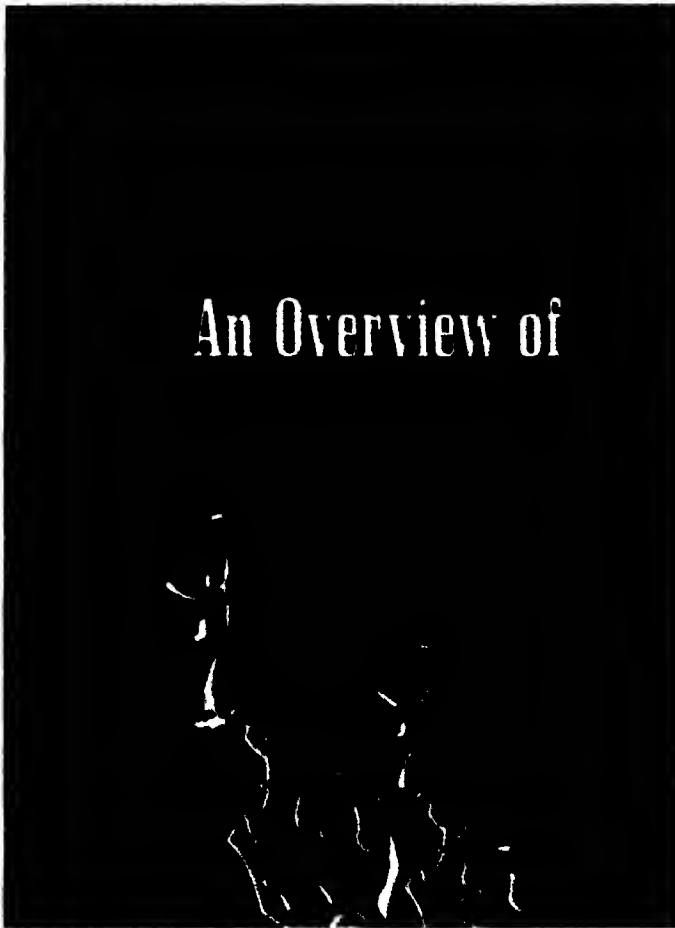
An insurgent is defined as a person who rises in active revolt, and insurgency is thus an uprising or a rebellion. In over 50 countries across the globe that have had to face this type of warfare, insurgency has been described in various terms, depending upon the complexion and intensity. Some of the terminologies used are insurrection, popular war, guerrilla warfare, partisan war, people's war, resistance war, revolutionary warfare and uprising.

On all accounts it alludes to the efforts by an organised and indigenous group, using protracted irregular warfare, to obtain political goals.

Although insurgency and terrorism—an adjunct of an insurgent movement—have in recent times gained worldwide currency, India has been particularly badly hit in the last decade. Widespread insurgency and terrorism have altered the psyche and lifestyles of large segments of Indian society and exposed the fragility of the State.

Pakistan, having learnt the advantages of fomenting transborder insurgency, first stoked the fire in Punjab and then upped the ante in Jammu and Kashmir, in an effort to bleed India dry, without having to commit its armed forces to realise a dream it has been harbouring since its eastern wing was converted into what is now Bangladesh.

External Support : The prime mover of an insurgency movement is external support — arms, ammunition, explo-



sives, training—including camps, funds, moral and political support for the ideology of the insurgents. India was forced to act as the midwife in the Caesarean operation during the birth of Bangladesh, a support necessitated by the prolonged neglect by Pakistan of its eastern wing which prompted the uprising. Ironically, the same external card is now being sought to be played by Pakistan, a task made easier by the blatant rigging of the J&K polls in 1987, further alienating a people already skeptical of the Centre's attitude.

Border States or regions of a country are thus most susceptible to an insurgency and

propaganda instigated by an adversary. Chinese support, through Myanmar, to the hostiles in the border States of Nagaland and Manipur stands out as an example.

Ironically again, insurgency was the most difficult problem being faced by Myanmar, and the Junta regime succeeded in engaging the Karen and Kachin insurgents in peace talks. Although China is positively friendly with Myanmar, India's criticism is now muted due to the Junta's willingness to seal its borders against north-eastern insurgents from India. An agreement between India and Myanmar has now been signed for cooperation between civilian authorities to

crack down on "illegal and negative cross border activities" which should help check heroin traffic and deny sanctuary to insurgents from Assam, Manipur and Nagaland on the Myanmar side of the 1643 km border.

Knifing out external support physically and diplomatically is, thus, the first requisite of combating an insurgency.

All insurgencies have a cause, whether it is genuine, imaginary or aggravated by various factors. The "cause" must find favour with a majority of the population. Economic and social discrimination are important causes, apart from political neglect. Sometimes a number of these causes act in concert to heighten the level of discontentment.

The Mohajirs in Pakistan are a discriminated lot who have felt it necessary to take up arms to assert and demand their rightful place in a country to which they migrated during partition (see box). The blood-bath and paralysis now witnessed in Karachi is the result of years of neglect of this ethnic minority group, which feels threatened of being subjugated by the Sindhis and Punjabis in a land to which they willingly migrated at the time of partition.

Insurgent movements may, therefore, be aimed to seek relief from social and economic inequalities and exploitation and elimination of corruption and nepotism.

Secession from the rest of the nation may also be sought

due to ethnic reasons. Ethnicity is a "holdall" concept and includes religion, culture, caste and class. The ethnic war in Sri Lanka stands out as a classical example. The conflict in this island nation is spearheaded by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Elam (LTTE) seeking an independent State.

LTTE supremo Vellupillai Prabhakaran's writ ran through much of the island's northern Jaffna peninsula. He

was recently taken head-on by President Chandrika Kumaratunga, whose announcing a package of devolution of powers failed to get him to the negotiation table.

Earlier, President Premadasa's arming of the LTTE in 1987, in a bid to humiliate the IPKF, added to the Tamil guerrillas' arsenal and clout.

Kumaratunga's boldness paid in the physical capture of Jaffna town—the LTTE's fiefdom—on November 23, 1995.

Prabhakaran at one time was rumoured to have fled the country and his cyanide wielding cadre (both men and women) disappeared in the nearby jungles to give battle. Which shows that the military angle, that of breaking the backs of the militants, is only a temporary phase. For one, the militants will always be able to regroup and recoup, and the basic cause will still remain unaddressed, further accentuating the rebels' resolve to secede.

In Sri Lanka's context the "leadership" aspect of the insurgents comes to the fore. While the leadership aims to give direction to the insurgents' cause, being rudderless or doggedly one-tracked only prolongs the misery. Prabhakaran was wary of losing his clout among the Tamils, who yearned for peace and normalcy in a country whose economy has been virtually crippled. The Sri Lankan government announced a proposal to levy "war-tax" on its affluent citizens and decided to increase its budget outlay for 1996 to Rs 38 billion—nearly one-third of the total budget expenditure.

It is a moot point whether the Tamils can now throw up an alternative leadership to make the best of what can be got from a politically amenable dispensation at Colombo.

The fall of Jaffna has been a devastating blow to the LTTE and the myth of its military invincibility exposed. For the past three years Jaffna had become a quasi-State which the Tamil guerrillas ruled in Stalinist style. Jaffna's three Tamil

dailies were controlled by the Tigers, who also ran a clandestine radio station. Newspapers and magazines from Sri Lanka and once-popular Indian movies and film music were banned.

Controlling the sprawling Jaffna peninsula with a mixture of Tamil ethnic pride and ruthlessness, all residents had to pay high taxes to the LTTE, which last year was toying with the idea of issuing its own currency in a bid to challenge the last vestige of Sri Lankan authority in its area.

The Tigers were more feared than admired despite a measure of popular support which provided to the group thousands of committed cadres who executed daring suicide attacks and virtually shot down the Sri Lankan air force. In the last ditch battle at Jaffna they used gas in a desperate bid to thwart the army's offensive.

The capture of Jaffna will make it easier for the Kumaratunga government to sell its devolution package to its opponents. While the Sinhalis may back Kumaratunga as a reward for daring the Tamil Tigers, some moderate Tamil groups, including the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), may favour the package. But total peace in Sri Lanka is still a far cry as the mauled tigers will try to regroup in the jungles and hit back. It is "peoples power" which can ultimately finish the LTTE, and for that the Tamils must say "finish" to violence and stop lending support to the Tigers.

GUERRILLA WARFARE

Military operations conducted in a hostile territory by primarily irregulars and predominantly indigenous forces operating independently with or without external support, against the forces of the State, with the ultimate objective of wearing down the authority of the incumbent regime till it is replaced by the authority of the guerrillas. In a broader sense, it is synonymous with insurgency in its initial stages before it graduates to guerrilla warfare and subsequently to conventional warfare.

Mao's definition of Guerrilla Warfare: It is a war waged by primarily indigenous population or defectors from the enemy forces in occupation of own territory or against the regular forces of the incumbent regime on their exterior line (i.e., rear). The essence of guerrilla warfare is revolutionary in character and it has a political goal, viz to seize power.

Guerrilla strategy is based primarily on alertness, mobility and attack. It must be adjusted to the enemy situation, the terrain, the existing lines of communication, the relative strengths, the weather and the situation of the people.

The essence of guerrilla warfare is highly mobile hit-and-run attacks by lightly armed groups that seek to harass the enemy and gradually erode its will and capability. Guerrillas place a premium on flexibility, speed and deception.

Insurgency is defined as an armed rebellion by a section of population against the legally constituted government with the support or sympathy of the local population obtained voluntarily or by coercion. Covered by it is the full spectrum of conflict from subversion and terrorism to the full-scale war, including the emergence of guerrilla bands into regular units.

COVER FEATURE

in Afghanistan, and mine and man-portable light infantry weapons were widely distributed all over the world during the cold war era. Armed by the two super powers were various groups in developing countries where they waged a proxy war. The largest distribution of such weapons took place in Afghanistan, Cambodia, Angola, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Somalia and some Central American Republics.

The US transferred more than three million automatic weapons to the Mujahideen via the Pakistani Inter Services Intelligence, and nearly half of them were retained by the Pakistanis for distribution to various militias in Pakistan as also Sikh extremists in Punjab and Kashmir militants.

The gift of arms has proved counterproductive with insurgency showing up in Pakistan's own backyard—Sindh. Karachi is now aflame with MQM-sponsored insurgency.

The bombing of the Egyptian embassy in Islamabad in November 1995 was the result of Pakistan's shortsighted policy towards pan-Islamic fundamentalist groups in Afghanistan. Frustrated at home, Egyptian ultras considered it more opportune to strike in Islamabad.

In countries prone to political instability, however, the aim may be the seizure of political power or installation of an amenable regime as in Afghanistan. The civil war in this godforsaken country is rooted in the invasion by the Soviet Union in 1979 for the stated reason to help the Afghan government to maintain control over the rebellious elements. The control over Afghanistan was considered essential in pursuance of the Russian policy of expanding influence towards the warm waters of the India Ocean.

President Hafisullah Amin got killed and Babrak Karmal, a Soviet nominee, was unable to quell the resistance consisting of Mujahideen or Islamic holy warriors in numerous groupings. The Soviets sacked Karmal and brought in Mohammad Najibullah, a former head of

KHAD, the secret police.

Despite massive assistance from the US and Pakistan the fractured Resistance made no progress, even as the war destroyed the country's economy and forced millions of desperate Afghan to flee, mostly to Pakistan.

Soviet losses mounted as the Mujahideen groups mounted co-ordinated operations, forcing them to withdraw by February 1989. The Soviets agreed to transfer its support from the Najibullah regime to an "Islamic Interim Government" in November 1991, after talks with Afghan opposition movements, the Mujahideen.

The Mujahideen insurgents closed in on Kabul, forcing Najibullah to step down in April 1992 and formed an interim council. Factional fighting between troops of the Minister of Defence, Ahmed Shah Massoud and the Hezb-

i-Islami led by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, continued until the signing of a peace agreement providing for the establishment of a neutral zone. But the peace was short-lived and fighting between government forces and the Hezb broke out again.

In late 1994 a newly-formed militant Islamic movement, Taliban—students of religion—took possession of Kandahar and routed Hekmatyar's Hezb-i-Islami at Kabul in February 1995, much to the delight of Pakistan which had put its entire weight behind the Taliban, its own creation.

Made up of former Islamic religious students, the Taliban made sweeping gains in southern and western Afghanistan. In September 1995 they marched virtually uncontested into the western city of Herat, taking control of the city, much to the chagrin of Iran.

Pakistan's strategy is to utilise Afghanistan to provide a link with the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and exploit their resources through the land

route. Pakistan's warlords, however, tend to ignore history and the fact that the Afghans are terribly intolerant of subjugation. An Afghan aphorism says: "We are content with discord... we are content with alarms... But we will never be content with a master."

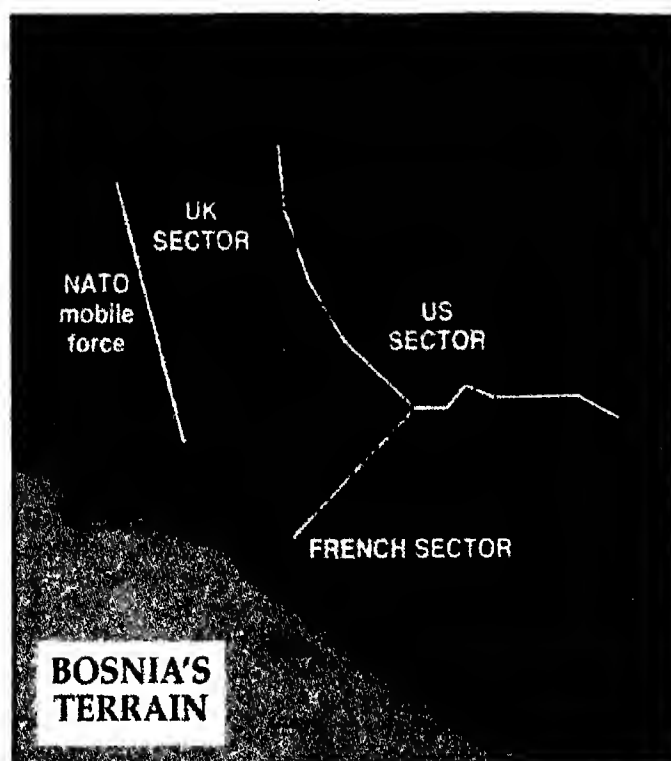
Throughout their history, the Afghans have displayed determination and tenacity—in spite of their acute differences of race, religion, tribe, sub-tribe and region—to fight and throw out all conquerors.

Now as the Taliban, backed by Pakistan and its Inter Services Intelligence, closes in on Kabul, Ahmed Shah Massoud, commander of Rabbani's forces is doing his best to hold them back, even as the UN special envoy Mohamood Meistri shuttles to broker a ceasefire.

The Kurdish independence war has a different dimension. The Kurds fight to create their own State has been continuing since the end of First World War. The area claimed by them was carved up by

WHO CONTROLS WHAT IN AFGHANISTAN





adjoining countries, with the largest portion going to Turkey. After World War II Iranian Kurds, with Soviet help, established a "Republic of Mahabad" but it lasted only a year.

Kurds face two obstacles to Statehood. They occupy a region which straddles the borders of Iran, Iraq, Turkey, Syria and the erstwhile Soviet Union—all oppose the idea of a separate Kurdish State and are reluctant to cede territory to the Kurds. Additionally, the Kurds have owed primary allegiance to their tribes which detracts from the concept of national unity.

Saddam Hussein subjugated his Kurds effectively in March 1988, using chemical weapons against them—more than 200,000 were killed or injured.

Their revolt against Iraqi forces, in the wake of the Gulf

War in 1991, was inspired by the US who wished to overthrow Saddam Hussein. But the scale of the uprising which had peaked unexpectedly, petered off suddenly, mainly because the Kurdish guerrillas, accustomed to fighting in rough terrain, could not adapt to street-fighting.

The Kurds' open war with Turkey continues today. The Kurds quest for greater autonomy has been stalled by the West's reluctance to upset Turkey—which has a strategic role in NATO's southern flank—and the UN's desire not to dismember Iraq.

The collapse of communism and disintegration of the erstwhile Soviet Union prompted Chechnya—one of the 21 remaining republics—to rise in armed rebellion against Russia. The brutal

war in Chechnya, caused by Russia's military attempt to rein in the breakaway republic, since December 1994, has claimed the lives of some 1,900 Russian soldiers and countless Chechen civilians.

The Russian government, which had never recognised the Chechen declaration of independence of November 1991, moved troops and armour into Chechnya to "re-establish constitutional order".

Having given Chechnya limited autonomy, similar to that enjoyed by other republics within the federation, Russia unilaterally announced elections in December, 1995, but Moscow has been accused of intending to tilt the vote in favour of a former communist party boss whom it installed as Chechnya's leader after capturing most of the republic in 12 months of fighting. Meanwhile, supporters of separatist leader Dudayev vowed to upset polling, even as the rival candidate pulled out accusing Moscow of trying to set up a "marionette system" of government that would plunge the republic into renewed war. By all accounts polling was marred by attacks on Russian forces whose helicopter gunships hovered in the skies to control the situation.

Grozny today is a city reduced to rubble, where Russian soldiers have been accused of running torture camps and are perceived as an occupation force, which Dudayev's loyal forces are waiting to drive out by carrying the war into Russia at an "opportune moment".

Georgia's separation from the Soviet Union was a smooth affair but it is still bathed in blood. Following a popular vote Georgia, one of the constituent republics of the USSR, unanimously declared independence in April 1991, based on an earlier treaty. After an armed insurrection, in which the elected President was deposed, a Military Council took over. In subsequent elections Eduard Shevardnadze became head of State but fighting between government forces and Abkhazian separatists has continued.

In spite of Russian assistance to Georgia and the signing of a peace agreement between Georgian and Abkhazian delegates, bloody violence has continued and there have been many attempts on Shevardnadze's own life.

Violence took the form of brutal killings, torture and rape to effect ethnic cleansing in former Yugoslavia. Strife in ex-Yugoslavia surpassed that in Rwanda, Somalia, Haiti and Chechnya. Committed here were some of the most barbaric war crimes that Europe has witnessed in 50 years—conscious targeting of innocent civilians, especially old people and babies, use of mass rape as an instrument of war and unimaginable forms of torture of civilian prisoners.

While democracy was restored in Haiti due to persistent US initiatives and Russia attempted to establish fragile peace in Chechnya, it took the US almost three weeks of

tough negotiations in Dayton, Ohio, to get Bosnia, Serbia and Croatia into a peace agreement. Under the agreement, Bosnia and Herzegovina is split roughly in half—a Serb republic and a Muslim-Croat federation, headed by a weak central government. Initially, NATO forces will patrol a two-mile-wide De-Militarized Zone (DMZ) between them. The combatants are required to remove their heavy weaponry to designated barracks, within 120 days, and to enforce this the 60,000 strong force (one third American, one third British and French, one third multinational, including Russian) can use any force.

The American Congress is understandably worried about the capacity of American troops to perform under difficult conditions in the Balkans. At the back of their minds is the botched up mission to Somalia in late 1992, to provide humanitarian relief. Caught up in the tribal warfare, 18 soldiers died in a bungled helicopter raid and the Americans decided the price was too high.

The Balkan mission is not going to be a cakewalk. In Bosnia the three factions are well armed and have plenty of hatred accumulated during the 43 months of self-imposed holocaust, backed by centuries of hatred. Adverse weather conditions in winter and the rugged mountainous terrain is ideal for guerrilla warfare in which the Americans and the remaining NATO force may well get sucked. With all the military technology to back the multinational force, it will be

immensely disadvantaged to operate in the Bosnian environment. The Nato peace enforcers in their biggest ever challenge will need plenty of luck to translate on ground the agreement got out of tough negotiations at Dayton, Ohio and signed at Paris on December 14, 1995.

Even as the IFOR (Implementation Force) got moving into stations in the Balkans, the Bosnian Parliament rejected the Dayton agreement.

Africa has been splattered with strife, mainly arising out of backwardness and tribalism. The fighting and massacres in Rwanda's civil war, between the Hutus and rebel Tutsi forces of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), caused an estimated two million refugees to flee into neighbouring countries by May 1994. President Habyarimana had been killed along with the President of Burundi—possibly assassinated—and fatalities in the fighting included the Prime Minister and UN personnel. French troops.

As many as 2,000 Hutu men, bundled into Rwanda refugee camps, perished in mass killings in April 1995—mostly at the hands of government soldiers who, along with the Tutsis, blame the earlier genocidal slaughter on the Hutus. Hutu refugee settlements now serve as sanctuaries and recruiting ground for xenophobic Hutu militias intent on seizing power.

In Somalia US troops capitulated in the face of warlord Gen Muhammad Farah

MOHAJIRS

Mohajirs means 'refugees', which applies to the Urdu-speaking migrants from India and Pakistan. There are 15 million Mohajirs in India. Mohajirs are a sizeable community, entirely urban based, with a literacy rate of about 80 per cent—three times the national average.

Mohajirs belong entirely to the working and middle class and constitute the second largest group of professionals and industrial workers.

Even after 47 years stay in their adopted land, they remain neglected. The Sindhi-Mohajir polarisation sharpened in 1970s over the language issue, and the politics of ethnicity gained strength in the 1980s under Zia's military regime.

The 1983 uprising in Sindh and formation of Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM) in 1984 provided the opportunity to the military regime to create permanent political divisions between urban and rural Sindh. The 1980s saw widespread ethnic clashes between the Mohajirs on one side and the Pathans and Punjabis on the other. By 1988 Karachi became hostage to ethnic organisations like MQM and Punjabi-Pushtoon Ittehad.

The lack of urban representation in the provincial power structure and the decision to carve out a new district—Mair—in Karachi along ethnic lines has alienated the Mohajirs further. Now the Mohajirs have renewed their demand for a separate province comprising Karachi, Hyderabad, Thatta and Mirpur Khas areas of Sindh.

The Army's May 1982 crackdown on the MQM and attempt to split their ranks proved counterproductive and operation "clean-up" ended in failure. The Army was withdrawn following charges of human rights violations. Emboldened, the MQM (Altaf) faction upped the ante, hardened its stand and Karachi is now a burning port city.

Major MQM Demands

- Discontinuation of operations against Mohajirs and withdrawal of all military and paramilitary forces from civilian areas.
- Representation proportionate to the Mohajirs' population in National and Provincial Assemblies and the Senate.
- Increase in urban quota in federal and provincial services.
- Shaking of the post of Governor and Chief Minister of Sindh in relation to Mohajirs and Sindhis.
- Repatriation of Pakistanis stranded in Bangladesh since 1971 without further delay.
- Compensation for MQM workers killed or injured and for loss of their property.
- Unconditional withdrawal of cases against MQM leaders.

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COACHING CENTRES

[illegible]

Aidid. UN troops sent in could only muster a semblance of control over the warring factions. The principal insurgent group, the Somali National Movement (SNM), had declared the secession of an independent "Somaliland Republic" in May 1991 with Hargeisa as capital, which is now faced with clan warfare.

The Nigerian problem stems from its tinpot military dictatorship headed by Sani Abacha, reckoned as the most savage any country has ever had to endure. The ancestral land of the Ogonis, a small tribe, produced some of the oil that enriched Shell and turned Nigeria into the wealthiest country in Africa. But the Ogonis got almost no revenue back and their villages were stricken by pollution. Ken Saro-Wiwa took up their cause and was executed after trial by a military tribunal on charges of inciting the murder of four opponents.

Nigeria has paid the political and economic price for this and it is likely that the Ogonis, who had sabotaged the oil refineries, will now throw up an alternative leadership to continue their demand for political and economic autonomy.

A semblance of normalcy was restored in Angola where the UN Security Council voted not to supply war material to UNITA (National Union for Total Independence of Angola) which rivalled for power with MPLA (People's Liberation Movement of Angola). An agreement for ceasefire was later signed, envisaging the integration of the banished UNITA forces into the Angolan military, the

formation of a coalition government and the holding of fresh elections.

Drug-running is a common strand in most insurgencies. International drug trafficking is big business, the earnings being upwards of \$ 20 billion a year. In some countries like Colombia, Peru and Bolivia, drug barons with their profits are able to fund private armies, bribe public officials and operate as sovereign rulers. Their immense wealth allows them to extend their influence beyond their countries.

In many cases in Latin America, Asia and elsewhere, reliance is placed by drug lords on deprived peasants to provide them with the labour to grow and harvest drug-producing crops. An intricate relationship exists between drugs and economic underdevelopment and this breeds insurgency.

An alliance has developed between drug lords and the local revolutionary groups in Peru and Bolivia. The drug barons provide money and weapons to the guerrilla outfits and the revolutionary groups, in turn, protect the drug business and direct their military campaigns against the national governments.

Drug trafficking between Afghanistan and Pakistan has been rampant. While there have been occasional hints of these drug-running operations being extended to Punjab and Kashmir the matter has not received the desired attention that it deserves. Pakistan generates through drug dealings much

of the money required to fuel insurgency in J&K.

Muslim fundamentalism was given the go-by in Algeria where the four-year-old conflict with Islamic militants had left over 40,000 dead. In the November 1995 elections voters overwhelmingly exercised their franchise in the face of militants' threats and elected a retired general who had earlier been appointed President to guide the government through a three-year transition to democracy.

Contrast this with J&K, where the fear of the gun caused the Election Commission to declare that ground conditions in the State were not conducive for elections in December 1995. The Narasimha Rao government had pegged its hopes on this election. But the Pakistan card is too visible in J&K. The elections were earlier postponed due to the Charar-e-Sharif shrine going up in flames, caused by Pakistan-based Mast Gul and his band of militants, exacerbated in part by our own inept handling. With a hostage crisis dragging on for over six months and our relative inaction in spite of the brutal slaying of Ostro, the Norwegian hostage, it is difficult to believe that a definite policy backed by political will exists on Kashmir.

In the Middle-East, however, it was a different ball game. Due to continuing US interest in the region and persistent attempts to broker peace, the curtain is now about to come down on years of instability. But the price

was paid by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who was gunned down by a right wing activist for signing a peace accord with arch rival Palestinians. Assuring the PLO that the assassin had not killed Middle-east peace, Israel has resumed peace talks and speeded up its withdrawal from the West Bank which it seized in 1967.

If all goes well Israel may also strike a peace deal with Syria and hand over the Golan Heights, ushering in more stability in a region, which until recently was a hotbed of guerrilla warfare.

Clinton's efforts are now directed at restoring peace in Northern Ireland where the IRA's (Irish Republican Army's) strategy has been largely based on its arms and explosive links with Libya. The IRA members, who are Roman Catholics, aim to bring terrorist conditions to mainland Britain to seek the union of Northern Ireland's six counties with Eire, the Irish Republic. The majority Protestants insist on the Six Provinces remaining part of the United Kingdom.

Even as Sinn Fein, the political wing of the IRA, is brought around the table, violence threatens to erupt in Southern Philippines where Muslim guerrillas rear up to renew their demand and an offensive—if needed—for an independent State for the Philippine's eight million Muslims.

We on this earth are perhaps destined to live in cycles of peace and violence as some imbalances get evened out even as more disparities come to the fore.

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SPECIAL FEATURE

India and the CTBT

India has not co-sponsored the UN resolution calling for an immediate conclusion of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). It has earlier co-sponsored similar resolutions in 1993 and 1994 and its refusal this time led to consternation among the Western powers. India's backtracking, however, is not strategic but seems to come from a lack of direction in its nuclear policy.

Matters are complicated by the blatant hypocrisy of Western powers on the issue of nuclear weapons. While professing nuclear non-proliferation, they have gone ahead with nuclear testing and refining their weapons. India insists that the nuclear weapon States should commit themselves to nuclear disarmament in the CTBT.

This feature looks at the compulsions of the CTBT and India's stand on it. It describes the reasons for the insistence of the West in pushing this treaty. Coming as it does after the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) which legitimises nuclear weapons in the hands of the five nuclear weapon States, what are the options before India? Moreover, since its nuclear policy is not very well defined, can the country make any difference in the nuclear power politics being played in the international arena?

AFTER the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) signed in 1995, the nuclear weapon States are pushing towards a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). With progress made at the Geneva Conference on Disarmament, pressure will be built up for signatures of this treaty. The West believes that the CTBT will sustain the viability of the NPT and will be a step towards nuclear disarmament.

Much pressure is being applied on India, which did not co-sponsor the UN resolution on CTBT this time. India has

made its support conditional on the five nuclear weapon States accepting a time bound programme of nuclear disarmament. India feels that the US is using the CTBT as a tool for non-proliferation that could be used to cap India's nuclear option by the global route.

India has always supported non-proliferation, provided it is applied universally. The call for cessation of nuclear tests was made in 1954 by Jawaharlal Nehru. This led to the Partial Test Ban Treaty of 1963, which banned nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, outer space and under water. Subsequently the issue was linked with non-proliferation. However, no negotiations were undertaken for cessation of such tests. This was the bone of contention of the NPT review conference in 1975, 1980, 1985 and 1990.

The Nuclear Weapon States (NWS) have been hypocritical as far as nuclear tests are concerned. While claiming CTBT to be an 'ultimate goal', they have not made any efforts to achieve it. The French and Chinese have ignored world protests and have gone ahead with nuclear tests even while claiming to be for non-proliferation.

The NWS have collected enough data through thousands of nuclear tests that weapons can now be perfected without any further tests. The nuclear weapon technology has reached a mature stage and even a test ban is not going to restrain the nuclear powers from developing their weapons. At the same time, however, it will prevent other States to develop the technology. Like the NPT, it legitimises nuclear weapons in the hands of five countries. India feels it is nothing but nuclear apartheid.

India's Stand

NOT surprisingly, the NWS have not put pressure on France and China to stop their testing. Instead, India, which has conducted only one test, is facing the brunt of world opinion. Shortly after the Indian decision not to sponsor the resolution on test ban, a report appeared in *New York Times* that India was planning a new test. The use of the media to plant such reports is designed to put the country on the defensive. Earlier too such false reports have appeared in the US media and the matter of India's second test has been predicted by experts in 1981, 1983 and 1987. That the test never took place shows the highly speculative reports that are floated in an effort to pressurise India. The US wants India to accept the discriminatory CTBT.

The Indian stand has been articulated by Prime Minister Narasimha Rao. According to him, India is committed to a CTBT that is truly comprehensive with "no hidden agenda and no loophole". It must be an integral part of a phased and time bound plan of total nuclear disarmament. India's stand on universal disarmament was also made clear by Rajiv Gandhi as early as 1988. However, intervening events have altered ground realities.

The indefinite extension of the NPT signed last year has legitimised the nuclear arsenal of the five NWS, United States, Britain, France, China and Russia. If the nuclear States will not disarm and the world continues to ignore Pakistan's nuclear programme and China's nuclear tests, then surely India cannot commit itself to the CTBT. If on the other hand, the CTBT is delinked from a verifiable and time-bound disarmament by the nuclear

powers, it will only perpetuate nuclear apartheid, dividing the world into nuclear haves and have-nots.

Many countries support India's stand. Other countries, most noticeably the Non Aligned countries, have wilted under pressure and agreed to discriminatory policies of the West. The CTBT thus represents an opportunity to wrest from the NWS a commitment to a binding disarmament plan. The question is: will India be able to do so? There is need for the country to stand firm and provide leadership to the non-aligned countries.

India has retained a posture of nuclear ambivalence, of retaining the capacity to go nuclear without the intent of doing so. Now India is being forced by public opinion to abandon the mature stance of nuclear ambiguity in favour of declared nuclear status. The BJP has already declared that it will go in for the nuclear bomb if it came to power. There is continued support to Pakistan by the US and the world turning a blind eye to China's activities. Both these countries actively pursue their weapons programme threatening to disrupt balance in the region.

These are legitimate national security concerns. India may demand minimum nuclear deterrence. But whether it will be able to do so remains to be seen.

Flawed and Irrelevant

THE reason for pushing a test ban treaty now is that the nuclear weapon countries have reached a level of technological sophistication where their nuclear weapons could be developed without further nuclear testing. A test ban is therefore no longer relevant. The treaty thus has nothing to do with non-proliferation.

At the same time, France and China have gone ahead with their nuclear tests right after the NPT was signed. Even if these countries sign the CTBT in 1996, they will have collected enough data to make the transformation to laboratory simulation. The US decision calling for hydro-nuclear tests that produce 'zero yield' fission will further pose threats to non-

proliferation in a post-CTBT era. Apart from the NWS developing sophisticated weapons, other nations could also secretly use this technology.

The fact that the NWS want to preserve their nuclear monopoly is reflective of their hypocritical strategy. But who are their enemies? After the end of the cold war, it is difficult to define enemies of these powers. Yet these countries have not seriously done anything for universal disarmament. The Arms Limitation Treaty, START II, has been signed by US and Russia in 1993 but is yet to be ratified.

The CTBT is not going to eliminate nuclear weapons. Nor will it reduce the nuclear arsenals of the big powers.

Limited Use

BUT it would be wrong to say that the CTBT will not achieve anything. It will at least limit more States from developing their nuclear weapons. Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, countries from Central Asia, Korea and other countries do not have nuclear weapons today. Moreover, terrorists and fundamentalist groups too are in the danger of getting fissile material. Our neighbour Pakistan is actively involved in developing a bomb.

A CTBT will prevent many States which have nuclear ambitions from developing weapons. Without any international treaty, there is no stopping any country or group to clandestinely build a bomb and test it out, or even use it. Even though the NPT and the CTBT are discriminatory, they limit the nuclear weapons in the hands of some States. With these treaties, there will not be a danger of unrestricted development of nuclear weapons among other nations and groups.

India's anti-treaty stance robs it of an opportunity to retain at least a moral stance. It can negotiate a time-bound disarmament plan rather than keeping away and paint itself in a position of no-consequence. According to K Sundarji, "If we have compelling national security reasons for not supporting the CTBT and the fis-

sile cut-off treaty, such action can be justified. I believe we do not have such a reason."

Many analysts feel that for India, investing in another nuclear test is not wise. It is very well to have a nuclear deterrent but a nuclear war can simply not be fought. Public opinion, however, is favourable towards conducting a nuclear test. In a survey, it was found that about two third of the people said they would approve India conducting another test. But at the same time, 68 per cent of the people felt that India should give up the option of making atom bombs if other nuclear powers agree to the same. A political party can well take to developing a bomb in order to gain mileage for elections. So far, India has been fortunate in not having such hardliners.

At the same time, India has to develop a policy for dealing with these treaties. It should be able to keep a high moral stand while also protect its interests. But with our leaders so busy in fighting allegations of corruption at home, a comprehensive foreign policy has not evolved. It may even lose out on important security interests.

India thus needs to make it clear that as long as other nations continue to expand nuclear weapons, it cannot give up its option. It would surrender its option only if other nations agree to do the same. "We should negotiate from a position of strength", says Abdul Kalam, chief of India's defence research and development programme. India can also use international negotiations to have the international community put pressure on Pakistan to stop its nuclear weapon programme.

India must approach the negotiations with full preparedness. The CTBT represents an opportunity to extract from the nuclear powers commitments for disarmament. Unfortunately, much of our foreign policy is marked by official inertia. On vital issues, neither the ruling nor the Opposition parties spend much thought. It is precisely this that the Western countries take advantage of.

SPECIAL FEATURE

Consumer Protection Act

Consumer goods have flooded the market as never before. Companies are introducing new products and brands even as the middle and lower income classes are taking loans to buy them. But what happens if the product does not live up to claims, or is of poor quality? Newspaper columns are full of complaints and many companies do not make any efforts to rectify the complaints.

The Consumer Protection Act gives the consumer his right to a fair deal. Since the Act came into existence in 1986, many people have sought redressal of their claims through it. In a recent judgement, even the doctors have been brought under the purview of the Act. But consumer courts have not quite lived up to their promise, plagued as they are with poor infrastructure and lack of resources. In many places, the consumer courts are so overburdened that they function like civil courts.

This feature describes the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act and the remedies available to a consumer. It also describes the state of consumer courts in the country and the debate regarding the Supreme Court judgement making medical practitioners accountable to their patients.

THOUGH consumer choice has increased in India, many companies still do not value customer satisfaction. As long as sales keep increasing, companies are unwilling to invest in after sales service. Defective goods is not the only problem; very often a customer may get taken in by a misleading advertisement and discover later that the goods purchased by him do not live up to the claims made.

The Consumer Protection Act, 1986 promises to rectify all that and make accountable the manufacturers and providers of service. It provides for quick and inexpensive redressal of consumer grievances through quasi-judicial bodies set up at the district, State and national level.

This facility is provided to 3 groups: the consumer, registered voluntary consumer associations and the Central and State government. When a group of persons is seeking similar redressal, a class action suit can be filed or may be treated as a public interest petition.

The applicability of the Act is wide. When a group of people did not get back the amount they had paid as deposit for scooter booking, they were awarded double the rate of interest and damages. Similarly, if a group of persons are affected adversely by the cancellation of a train or through consumption of adulterated food, they can seek redressal under this Act.

Applicability of the Act

A consumer has been defined as a person who buys any goods or hires or avails of any services for a consideration. Hospitals offering free service and doctors in hospitals which do not charge their patients are therefore exempt from the Act. Goods purchased for commercial purpose are also not covered in the Act except if a person buys the goods to be used exclusively for the purpose of earning a livelihood by means of self-employment.

A consumer can complain against unfair trade practices, defective goods and overcharging. Defects have been defined as any fault, imperfection, shortcoming in quality, quantity, potency, purity or standard which is required to be maintained by or under any law for the time being in force, or as is claimed by the trader in any manner whatsoever in relation to any goods.

Defects in service include the provisions of facilities in connection with banking, finance, insurance, transport, processing, electric supply, housing construction, hotels, entertainment, amusement, purveying of news or other

information, and so on. All services provided by professionals like doctors, lawyers and architects are included. However, contracts of personal service, which is one between master and servant, are not included.

An unfair trade practice means any unfair or deceptive practice. False representation of quality of goods and services and 'bargain sales' when there is no reduction of prices, misleading and false advertising, all come in the ambit of the Act. Other unfair practices are hoarding of goods to extract a higher price, conduct of contest, lottery, game of chance or skill for promoting sale of goods, and permitting the sale of goods that are substandard. Falsely representing any second hand goods or that the seller has a sponsorship which he does not have, giving of guarantee that is not based on adequate tests, are all unfair practices.

A restrictive trade practice is defined as any trade practice that requires a customer to buy, hire or avail any goods or services as a condition precedent for buying any other goods or services. Thus, a dealer who forces you to buy a gas stove with a gas connection is indulging in a restrictive trade practice.

Forums, State and National Commission

THE Act prescribes a time limit of two years within which a complaint must be filed. In exceptional cases, the court can condone the delay in filing a case. If the cost of goods or services in question or the compensation being sought is less than Rs 5 lakh, the complaint has to be filed with the District Consumer Redressal Forum, which has been set up in each district in the country. It must be filed with a forum within the local limits of whose jurisdiction the opposite party resides or

carries on business or has a branch office. If the value of goods or services or the compensation being sought is over Rs 5 lakh but within Rs 20 lakh, the case must be filed before the State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, which has been established in each State capital. If it exceeds Rs 20 lakhs, it has to be filed before the National Commission in New Delhi.

If a person is dissatisfied with the order of the District Forum, he can approach the State Commission and then, if necessary, the National Commission. The appeal must be filed within 30 days from the date of the order.

Procedure

IN order that a common man can take advantage of the Act, the procedure has been kept simple and there is no need for an advocate to argue the case. A consumer can simply write down the complaint and attach photocopies of the receipts, bills and other documents and submit it to the court. A copy is sent to the opposite party, who must reply within 30 days and give their version. A date is fixed for the hearing and to settle the dispute. Sometimes, companies do not respond to the summons and then the case is decided *ex-parte*.

If the complaint is found to be valid, the court can direct the opposite party to a) remove the defects and replace the defective goods with new goods, or refund the amount paid for the goods, b) remove the deficiencies in services, and c) pay compensation for loss or suffering caused on account of defective goods and services and also pay costs.

In case the goods are found to be hazardous, the court can order their withdrawal from the market. It may order the party to discontinue the unfair or restrictive practice. In case the order of the court is not complied with, it can award punishment with a minimum imprisonment of one month but which may extend to three years. Fines may also be levied between Rs 2,000 to Rs 10,000, or both.

People with frivolous complaints are discouraged. If there is such a complaint, the complainant may be asked to pay costs

not exceeding Rs 10,000.

Pending cases

IN terms of legislation, the CPA is very comprehensive. But is it effective? Many people have been disappointed to find that speedy justice is still elusive. The consumer courts are today inundated with complaints, many of them petty. The number of pending cases is estimated to be 2 lakh. With a quasi-judicial redressal machinery at the district, State and national level, the alternate legal system was meant to take the load off the overburdened civil courts. Flexibility was also aimed at. "The forums are not trammelled by any technicalities" says the CPA and indeed there is no court fee and undue formalities.

This promise has not been kept. The consumer courts have become so overburdened that most of them function exactly like civil courts. Redressal is delayed by lack of quorum, frequent adjournments and bureaucratic hurdles. Many cases are delayed. In Bihar, most of the 1,000 cases filed are pending. In Maharashtra, it may take up to two years for a case to come up for hearing. Member posts are lying vacant in many places and members of the West Bengal have not been paid since April. The Karnataka Commission has 13,025 cases pending due to lack of staff. The National Commission in Delhi also has 2541 cases pending.

People also complain of legal processes. In many places, lawyers are engaged and the process has been made complicated. The Ministry of Civil Supplies and consumer affairs has constituted a working group which has made certain suggestions for amendments to the Act. Among these are: a) granting of powers of injunction and stay to the consumer courts. In case a person gets a huge water or telephone bill, connection should be restored till there is a decision. b) exclude writ jurisdiction of High Courts, and c) Inclusion of civic services and government hospitals.

The delay in consumer courts has weakened the CPA and consumers in India still have to wait for justice. However, a start however small, has been made and it is hoped that these courts can be

strengthened in the future.

Doctors and the CPA

THERE has been much debate whether doctors should be included in the CPA. But a recent judgement of the Supreme Court clears the issue and says that doctors are providers of services under contract and were under the same obligation to deliver proper service. Since the act of a doctor could endanger lives, he was under full responsibility to treat the patients well.

The court has said that a doctor must possess skill and knowledge. He owes the patient certain duties relating to treatment to be given and a certain amount of care. "A breach of any of those duties gives a right of action for negligence to the patient."

The judgement came even as a large number of complaints started coming in about carelessness of doctors, both in private as well as government hospitals. In many hospitals around the country, patients are at the receiving end from doctors and the judgement may rectify some misdoings done by them.

But many people also feel that the judgement will have negative affects. For instance, to avoid legal hassles and litigation, a doctor may order several tests before he agrees to see a patient. For a country with low incomes, this means that medical care will slowly go out of the reach of poor people. Similarly, a doctor may not attend patients at odd hours and in emergencies for fear of committing an error. Doctors may also have to take insurance against legal suits, the cost of which will again be put on the patient. Ultimately, it is the consumer that may suffer because of the judgement.

It is, however, difficult to say yet about the repercussions of the judgement. It will enforce a certain amount of accountability in the profession while at the same time cause doctors to practice "defensive medicine". A large section of the population depends on alternate systems of medicine, which is not covered by the CPA. Only time will tell as to who will benefit from the recent judgement—doctors, patients, or will it be lawyers and insurance companies?

PARAGRAPH-WRITING

Model Paragraphs

"Frugality embraces all the other virtues."

—Cicero

If profligacy is a vicious vice, frugality is a vibrant virtue. In an age where money getting and money spending has become an obvious obsession with all, frugality is the only answer to the growing culture of conspicuous consumerism. When we know how to put a reasonable restraint on our run-away desires and designs, we realise the true worth of frugality in life. An open display of one's possessions and their indiscriminate wastage for vanity and vulgarity is the bane of so many social ills around us. Frugality is one such trait of life as leads us to the goal of moderate and modest living. Once we come to know the value of living, within sensible limits of our instincts and inclinations, and spend our earnings with discretion, we are bound to be blessed with poise and peace within and quiet around. All other virtues of life, like rightful concept and conduct, thoughts and actions, feelings of joy and elation, benevolence and charity, concern and compassion—in fact everything that ennoble our spirit and chisels our wild senses—depends upon the golden touch of frugality.

"Comparisons are odious."

In human relations comparisons create more annoyance than healthy competition. Among events and the resultant situations, comparisons may prove an eye-opener and thus offer an opportunity to mend matters for the future. As far as human beings are concerned, their inflated egos and conceit seldom swallow the bitter dose of com-

parison that some well-meaning fellows would like to push down their throats. More often than not, comparisons add insult to injury when the affected person is made to feel small or inferior to the one who has made a mark in life. Since human beings differ in most respects like intellect, memory, reception to new ideas and adaptability, it is in the fitness of things that we do not resort to comparisons as a matter of routine. The one who is slow in grabbing the opportunity and moulding it to his immediate gain, is dubbed as dull and doddering. In fact when we make use of comparisons to caution and coerce our kith and kin into doing something spectacular, we seldom realise the adverse effects that such an approach may produce. Though comparisons are odious, there is no escape from them because they are an integral part of our experience and expression. However, they ought to be used with utmost care.

"Virtue is its own reward".

Between virtue and vice, the latter is more tempting and exciting. More often than not it is the vice that leads us into the blind alley, the other end of which can only be lighted by virtue and vigorous pursuit of noble thoughts and actions. Though exacting and exceptional in nature the path of virtuous living is beset with thorns and thickets. Seemingly, the results of a virtuous life may appear coming late but they are surely more exulting and exuberant. In fact, the wise and the wary can discern the consoling or healing touch of virtue. There is no denying the fact that virtue and righteousness do not beg for any reward other than their own place and position in human life. Those who can see into the 'life of things' and are

patient and tolerant of what passes before their eyes, know the vital power of virtue. The world and its glorious heritage has survived on the strength of virtue which the noble minds emitted from their conduct and character like the rays from the sun.

"There is no royal road to learning."

Learning is neither a matter of chance or chagrin nor a sudden display of tactics or tricks. It is born out of the profound principles of concentration and contemplation in the company of mighty minds, physically present or kept alive in libraries. Neither a donkey load of books nor a profuse projection of acquired knowledge with little assimilation, can make us learned fellows. No doubt learning is both a boring as well as a baring (revealing) exercise. It is a boon for those who put their hearts and soul in the arduous pursuit of knowledge. There are no short cuts to learning nor is the road to the destination called 'enlightenment' bedecked with royal reception. Unlike the magic wand in the hand of a magician, who uses it to show his feats, the process of learning is slow but revealing. Learning, like all great gifts of God, comes in trickles but when it begins to unfold its parameters, new vistas and visions appear on human mind. It may be easy for some to achieve success in a single stroke or hit the jackpot in the first attempt, but as far as the empowerment or enrichment with learning is concerned, discipline, dedication and determination are the foremost fundamentals to get anywhere near the halo of learning. In short, there is no royal road to learning.

ARTICLE

Reforming Insurance Sector

The process of reforms is almost five year-old and several reforms in the financial sector have already been initiated. Banking system, foreign exchange regulations, capital markets and monetary policy are some of the areas where several reforms have not only been executed successfully, but have also started yielding discernible results. Government has also taken several steps to streamline its fiscal policy. Monetary policy measures have been in extensive use during the recent years. While examining the achievements of financial sector the insurance sector stands out by least or virtually no reforms at all so far.

Malhotra Committee Report

MAIHOTRA Committee was appointed by the Government, in April 1993, under the chairmanship of Mr R N Malhotra, a former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The Committee was given the task of studying the working of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), General Insurance Corporation (GIC) and its four subsidiary insurance companies and insurance business as a whole. To keep in tune with the ongoing process of reforms, the Committee was asked to make recommendations for reforms in the insurance sector. Malhotra Committee submitted its report on January 7, 1994 and its recommendations, in brief, are as under:

(a) Private companies should be permitted to enter insurance business with a minimum paid up capital of Rs 100 crores.

(b) Foreign insurance companies should be allowed to enter the insurance business in India, preferably by entering into joint ventures with the Indian partners.

(c) With a relatively lower capital base, State level cooperative societies should be allowed to enter the life insurance sector, subject to obligatory regulation by Insurance Regulatory Authority.

(d) LIC should be converted into a Company and its Capital should be raised to Rs 200 crore, with Government holding 50 per cent equity and remaining with public and LIC employees.

(e) Postal Life Insurance should be allowed to transact in rural areas among the general public.

(f) Capital base of GIC should also be increased to Rs 200 crores on the pattern proposed for LIC.

(g) GIC should function only as a re-insurance company under the Insurance Act.

(h) Four subsidiaries of GIC should be completely delinked from GIC by acquisition of entire stock in them by the Government. Equity Capital of each subsidiary be then raised to Rs 100 crores, with the Government holding 50 per cent of it and remaining 50 per cent to be held by public at large as well as the employees of subsidiaries concerned.

(i) Several schemes like Landless Agricultural Labourers Group Insurance (IALGI) and IRDP beneficiary schemes etc should be handled by the concerned departments themselves.

(j) All insurance companies should be treated on equal footings and governed by provisions of Insurance Act. No special considerations be given to the LIC, GIC or its four subsidiaries over the private entrants.

(k) Tariff Advisory Committee (TAC) should be delinked from GIC to function as a separate statutory body under the supervision of insurance regulatory au-

thorities.

(l) LIC should be fully restructured. Its head office should turn into a highly professional centre engaged in policy formulation, product development, personnel policies etc.

(m) Steps should be initiated to set up a strong and effective insurance regulatory authority, in the form of statutory autonomous body, on the lines of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

About two years have elapsed since these recommendations came and amidst strong protests by the employees of LIC and GIC the government has not been able to introduce any significant reforms. Various aspects of the recommendations made by Malhotra Committee are being studied in detail and only a few reforms have been introduced.

Half-Hearted Reforms

It is believed that in the face of growing globalisation, opening up of insurance sector appears to be only a matter of time. Notwithstanding the stiff opposition by the employees, insurance sector is bound to get reformed in the near future. The government, without making radical reforms, has initiated a gradual process of transformation and several steps have already been taken. Among the important steps, the Government formed an independent Insurance Regulatory Authority (IRA) last year. This newly formed body is to take over the functions which were earlier assigned to the Controller of Insurance. It would also formulate guidelines for private and foreign entry and capital adequacy norms for all companies. IRA would also screen applications from private parties seeking entry into the insur-

ance sector. The Government had also appointed a committee headed by a former Chairman and Managing Director of New India Assurance Co., Mr A.K. Mukherjee, to look into the capital adequacy norms. The Committee has submitted the report to the Government and this report is likely to form the major plank for IRA guidelines.

The Government has also relaxed the investment norms for GIC and its four subsidiaries, with effect from April 1, 1995. As against the earlier limit of 30 per cent, GIC and other four subsidiaries can now invest upto 55 per cent of their annual accretion funds in the market sector. This single change is expected to enable GIC and its subsidiaries to invest an additional Rs 350 to 400 crore in the market sector.

The Government has further indicated several times that the foreign companies will not be allowed to enter the insurance sector alone. As a result, several foreign players are in the process of signing MoUs with their Indian partners. Although Indian Companies are requesting the Government not to insist on Rs 100 crore equity capital, the indications are that the Government may stick to this norm. There was another fear that advent of private and foreign companies would result in good talent getting attracted to the better wages to be offered by them. A pension scheme has already been approved for all insurance employees and the process of wage revision was also initiated.

In absolute terms, total insurance premium in India is reasonably high at \$ 1.5 billion (in 1994). But in relative terms the premium density in India is very low at 0.58 per cent of the GDP, while in the USA, this density is 5.1 per cent. Even in absolute terms, most of the developed countries, with much lesser population than India, have much higher premium. Australia with less than 15 million population has a total premium at \$ 15 billion—several times higher than India. One of the most important reasons is that insurance sector has failed to make deep inroads into the rural parts of the country, both in terms of life as well as general insurance. Only three per cent of the total

premium comes from the rural areas. Similarly, GIC has failed to tap the vast market for household and personal effects insurance. Even in the field of Life Insurance, only 21 per cent of the lives are covered and that too with modest premium.

Due to the above reasons the performance of the insurance sector has been sluggish during the recent past. Being in public sector, inherent inefficiencies and lack of professional approach have adversely affected the achievements of this sector. During the year 1993-94, insurance companies in India earned a total profit (before tax) of Rs 1082 crore out of a total premium of Rs 4766 crore. Their investment income was 975 crore. With the increased investment percentage in the market, the profits of the insurance corporations are likely to increase significantly in the years to come. But, at the same time, ensuing competition would also take its toll and the existing insurance companies are likely to get reduced projects. These companies recently scaled down their profit projections for the coming years. While the initial industry estimate of premium growth during 1996-2000 was Rs 5200 crore, it has now been revised to Rs 2000 crore, taking into account the new expected entrants.

Future Expectations

THERE are no two opinions that the insurance sector in India badly needs reforms to overcome its several ailments. Despite high premium rates, insurance companies incur sizeable underwriting losses every year. Low penetration, both in the field of general and life insurance, particularly in the rural areas, is another area of concern. Inertia among the employees, complacency of being in the public sector, lack of competition, low turnover and profitability and undue "external" interference are some of the factors responsible for poor performance of the insurance sector. Hence, to overcome all these problems, a new look is required to be given. Fears are expressed that privatisation of insurance sector would adversely affect the sector's ability to ser-

vice its social obligations. Even the competition with the private companies is feared to be "unhealthy". But these fears may turn out to be unfounded ones.

New entrants in the insurance sector may result in selling insurance to the common man in a more fruitful manner. To survive in the competitive environment the new companies will have to explore new market segments, new product development, resulting in high penetration ratio. The employees of the existing companies will also have to pull up their socks to match their counterparts in the private companies. New technology, methodologies and computerisation is expected to swarm the insurance sector, thereby making it more efficient and effective. Time taken to settle the claims is going to reduce considerably, making it to be the major plank to attract the customers.

The Government has already taken some measures to initiate the process of reforms. Most of the changes are preparatory in nature and major reforms are yet to follow. Insurance sector has many challenges to face to come upto international standards. Extensive work, both in general and life insurance, is required to be done with a missionary zeal. Agriculture sector, which employs maximum manpower in the country, has remained more or less uncovered by general insurance. Rural areas need special attention as there are very few rural offices of the insurance companies. Foreign and private companies would be welcomed by the consumer as they are expected to set very high standards of service and efficiency. To make a niche for themselves in the market, new entrants are also expected to explore the untouched and high risk areas.

The emerging regulatory framework in the insurance sector is in response to felt needs of the society, as expressed by Malhotra Committee. New capital adequacy norms, entrance of new players in the insurance sector and proposed restructuring would go a long way in making the insurance sector a modern and tuned to the needs of today.

CAREER

Bank Probationary Officers

Of late, Banking has emerged as one of the most flourishing and challenging sectors. Conventionally considered to be a rewarding career, recent changes in the Government policy on Banking sector has made this as one of the most sought-after careers. A candidate joining the banking service as a probationary officer can hope to go very high in the managerial hierarchy by the time of retirement. Not only the rank would be quite high, the salary drawn would also be very attractive. A person joining as probationary officer at a favourable age can hope to retire as General Manager in the bank. With the opening up of banking sector to the private sector, several new players have come in the field and are looking for capable and talented personnel in the banking industry by offering pretty high salaries and very attractive perks. Direct recruitment as probationary officers has also been started by some new entrants.

Lucrative Career

Banking offers very attractive, challenging and rewarding career to its Officers. Till recently, the careers as officers were offered mainly by the nationalised banks but, with the change in government policy, several private banks have come up. Several prominent companies have come forward in the banking sector and offer even more attractive careers as Officers. As probationary officers, the candidates join the lowest rung of the ladder of hierarchy of management and are entrusted with the responsibility of executing the policy directions of the senior management, run the branches, both small and large ones, maintain the accounts, prepare the balance sheet and profit and loss statements and ensure profitability of the branch concerned by meeting the targets of deposits and advances.

In addition to attractive remuneration, bank officers also enjoy certain privileges and perks. In addition to routine facilities like medical reimbursement, Leave Fare Concession (LFC), provident fund and pension (recently introduced as optional) the bank officers also enjoy facilities like conveyance allowance, officiating allowance, consumer loan at a much lesser rate of interest, house building advance etc. They also enjoy the privilege of getting one per cent higher interest on all their savings kept in the bank.

There are several Banking Service Recruitment Boards (BSRBs) in the country which carry out recruitment of probationary officers as per the requirement given by various banks. The recruitment for probationary officer for the State Bank of India (SBI) is done by the Central Recruitment Board SBI Group (Recruitment Cell), separately as per requirement. The advertisement for the post of probationary officers appears in almost all leading national/regional newspapers. In addition, detailed advertisement also appears in the Employment News.

Selection Process

Selection of the probationary officers is done by way of a written examination followed by a personal interview. Only those candidates who are successful in the written examination are called for personal interview.

Eligibility: Degree from a recognised university or any other equivalent qualification recognised by the Government of India is the minimum required educational qualification to take the Probationary Officer's examination. The candidates must possess the required educational qualification on the date of submitting the application. Some of the private banks prescribe some minimum percentage of

marks in the degree examination. They also seek candidates who possess CAIIB qualifications, a professional qualification which can be attained by any banker during the course of service. Age limit is usually 21 years to 28 years. Upper age limit is relaxable for Scheduled Castes/Tribes, Chartered Accountants and immigrants from Bangladesh, Burma (Myanmar), Sri Lanka, Kenya, Uganda, Vietnam, Tanzania, Ethiopia etc. Recently, age relaxation of 3 years has been allowed to the candidates belonging to the Other Backward Classes (OBCs). Ex-Servicemen also enjoy the benefit of age relaxation as per the rules of the Government. There is usual reservation of vacancies for Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and OBC candidates.

Scheme of Examination: All eligible candidates are called for a written examination which consists of both objective type and descriptive examination. Question papers are usually bilingual, i.e. in English as well as Hindi. Objective type examination will consist of Test of Reasoning, Quantitative Aptitude, English Comprehension and General Awareness (General Knowledge). In addition, there is a descriptive type of question paper to be answered either in Hindi or English. Test of Reasoning consists of several questions to ascertain the reasoning capability of the candidates. This test has verbal as well as non-verbal questions relating to figures and drawings. Similarly, Test of Quantitative Aptitude ascertains as to how fast a candidate can work numerical calculations. It also consists some graphs and tables and the candidates are asked to interpret them. Test of English Language contains several questions to ascertain the knowledge of the candidates in the English language. It is aimed at testing the overall comprehension and understanding of the candidates in this language. Words, phrases, expressions and usage of

language are tested and general ability of the candidates in understanding correctly the English Language is ascertained.

Test of General Awareness is very critical one and needs thorough preparation. Aim is to test the general awareness of the candidates about the environment and happenings in the world around. The questions on the general knowledge are carefully designed and the standard is that expected from a graduate. Although it is difficult to define the areas from where the questions can be asked, yet questions are expected from the areas like Everyday Science, Geography, History, Economics, Indian Polity and Social Problems etc. Questions on National and International current affairs can also be expected. While the objective type tests aim at judging the knowledge part, the descriptive part of the examination judges the written expression of the candidates in the language of their choice, i.e. Hindi or English. In totality, the written examination aims at selecting the candidates who have higher level of knowledge and good written expression.

Written examination is followed by the personal interview. Depending upon their performance in the written examination and number of vacancies, selected candidates are invited for personal interview. Main aim of the personal interview is to judge the suitability of the candidate for the post of a probationary officer. Interview, therefore, is directed at gauging the knowledge, judgement, expression, understanding and overall suitability of the candidates. There is no set format of interview and it is usually directed by the replies of the candidates. The marks obtained by the candidates in both written examination as well as personal interview are considered while formulating the final merit list.

How to prepare?

State Bank/Bank Probationary Officer's examination is taken by lakhs of candidates every year, while the vacancies are in hundreds. This indicates the intensity of the competition for the post of probationary officer. Considering the com-

petition, a very high degree of preparation is required by the candidates for this examination. The examination has several aspects and a person with a balanced blend of knowledge, common sense, level of understanding etc. has all the chances of being successful. Tests of reasoning and quantitative aptitude need special preparations. Same is true for the General Awareness also. As mentioned earlier, Test of Reasoning may be verbal or non-verbal, meaning thereby that reasoning questions may be asked on several figures, alphabets or even drawings. A candidate not only needs a fertile brain to solve these problems successfully but also needs a lot of practice in attempting various types of questions on reasoning. A candidate may also expect some questions on common sense.

Test of quantitative aptitude aims at judging the aptitude of the candidate towards figure-work. It is well known that an officer in banks is mainly concerned with day to day figures and their management. Hence, a candidate who is not at ease with figure work is not suitable for a bank-officer's job. It not only judges the aptitude but also the speed and accuracy with which one can complete the test. Here again, regular practice for quite some time enables a candidate to acquire skill, speed and accuracy.

Test of English Language is designed to judge the understanding of English Language. Comprehension passages are so framed as to gauge the understanding of the candidates and their capability of answering the questions correctly. While the understanding of any language is fundamental in nature and is difficult to be altered during the short period of preparation, yet regular practice does benefit a candidate equipping him/her with the skill and capability to attempt the test successfully.

Test of General Awareness, however, needs thorough preparation. The spectrum of subjects out of which the questions are asked is so wide that practically, the candidates may expect questions from any subject on earth. To prepare well, the candidates not only need a good base in cur-

rent affairs, both national and international, but also a regular practice and updating of information and knowledge. "The Competition Master" caters to all the needs of the aspiring candidates by providing an excellent insight into the current affairs, features and articles and solved objective-type tests. To supplement this, the candidates are advised to consult "General Knowledge Refresher" by O.P. Khanna and "Current Affairs Background" published by M/s Khanna Brothers Publishers, Chandigarh. For preparation in reasoning and quantitative aptitude also, provides rich material every month. A book on "Test of Reasoning", published by Khanna Brothers Publishers, also provides fairly good practice.

Personal interview needs a different kind of preparation. It is the test of personality of a candidate to ascertain his/her suitability for the job. Normally, the emphasis during the interview are not on testing the knowledge of a candidate but on seeing the overall suitability of a candidate for the job of an Officer in the bank. Normally a good expression, a good knowledge base, quick grasp, presence of mind, sincerity etc. are some of the aspects which help a candidate to sail through the interview. A self-confident candidate is expected to do well in the personal interview. To prepare well for the interview the candidates must carry out several group discussions with the fellow candidates on the topics of importance, read a good competitive magazine like CM and also attempt mock interviews.

A firm determination, good knowledge base, constant practice, choice of correct books and magazines etc. are some of the factors that assist a candidate to do well in the examination/interview for the post of bank, probationary officer. It should, however, be noted that the private banks, which have recently started recruitment to the post of officers, have their varying standards. Their examination syllabi (if any) may distinctly differ from that of the BSRBs or the Recruitment Cell of the SBI. In many cases, they only call the candidates for a comprehensive personality test.

PREPARING FOR MBA

Business General Knowledge

This feature helps you to prepare for management entrance tests in which business GK is asked. In FMS, corporate awareness is asked, while in XLRI, questions related to labour are asked. In the CFA and MBE programmes, questions related to finance and economy may be asked.

1. Advertisers are interested in TRPs of television programmes. What does TRP stand for?

- (a) Television Recall Percentages
- (b) Television Rating Points
- (c) Total Reception Points
- (d) Television Rating Percentages

2. What is the name of the company that is bringing Revlon cosmetics into the country?

- (a) Lakme
- (b) Pond's
- (c) Hindustan Lever
- (d) Modi Mundipharma

3. MARG is a:

- (a) Market Research Company
- (b) Book of road maps
- (c) Index of business data
- (d) Road and railway time-table

4. In the detergent market, the maximum market share is held by which company?

- (a) Nirma
- (b) Surf
- (c) Ariel
- (d) TOMCO

5. What is the name of the Indian business family who figure highest on the list of Britain's richest people?

- (a) Swaraj Paul
- (b) Vijay Mallya
- (c) Raj Bagri
- (d) Gopichand and Srichand Hinduja

6. Renato Ruggerio is the name connected with:

- (a) World Bank
- (b) American Corporate giant
- (c) WTO
- (d) Star TV

7. The Thapar Du Pont plant which was to be put up in Goa is to be put up in which State?

- (a) Goa
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Tamil Nadu
- (d) MP

8. The diamond mining giant De Beers is a cartel belonging to which country?

- (a) South Africa
- (b) UK
- (c) USA
- (d) France

9. The *badla* system is associated with which of the following?

- (a) Foreign exchange
- (b) Forward trading
- (c) Currency markets
- (d) Commodity market

10. Which company has launched a product as "mint without the hole"?

- (a) Nutrine
- (b) Parry's
- (c) Nestle
- (d) Bakeman's

11. Where is the India Expo being planned to be held in April 1996?

- (a) Bombay
- (b) Morocco
- (c) Italy
- (d) Switzerland

12. Who has received the National Productivity Award for his outstanding contribution to encourage productivity movement in India?

- (a) J J Irani
- (b) D Ambani
- (c) H Goenka
- (d) R Tata

13. Where is the Gandhi Labour Institute located?

- (a) Bombay
- (b) Nagpur
- (c) Ahmedabad
- (d) Baroda

14. "The Road Ahead" is the name of the book written by:

- (a) Richard Nixon
- (b) Bill Clinton
- (c) Paul Allen
- (d) Bill Gates

15. According to the Employees Pension Scheme, the maximum pension that a person get per month on superannuation is:

- (a) Rs 1500
- (b) Rs 2000
- (c) Rs 2500
- (d) Rs 3000

16. Bill Gates was one of the founders of Microsoft. Who was the other?

- (a) Paul Allen
- (b) John Naisbitt
- (c) Michael Crichton
- (d) Kenneth Clarke

17. The first JRD Tata award for corporate leadership has been conferred upon:

- (a) T. Wahid
- (b) S S Nadkarni
- (c) Rajan Pillai
- (d) Aditya Birla

18. Models Milind Soman and Madhu Sapre were charged for indecent exposure for the advertisement of which brand?

- (a) Reebok
- (b) Le Cooper
- (c) Tuffs
- (d) Bare Necessities

19. What was the name of the industrialist who challenged the rule of flying the national flag on his building and won the case?

- (a) Rajan Nanda
- (b) Naveen Jindal
- (c) Parvez Damania
- (d) Ramesh Chauhan

20. Which is the best city to do business in, according to *Fortune* magazine?

- (a) Singapore
- (b) San Francisco
- (c) London
- (d) New York

21. What is the name of the trade union which is affiliated to the Shiv Sena?

- (a) Bharatiya Kamgar Sena
- (b) Hind Mazdoor Sabha
- (c) Rashtriya Mill Mazdoor Sangh
- (d) Kamgar Aghadi Union

22. About how many workers will be covered by the Union government's new pension scheme?

- (a) 25 million
- (b) 18 million
- (c) 13 million
- (d) 8 million

23. Which company is emerging as the largest pager services provider in the country?

- (a) RPG Enterprises
- (b) Hutchinson Max
- (c) Modi Page
- (d) Punwire Ltd

24. The government has set up hospitals where there are large concentrations of *bedi* workers, to cure which disease?

- (a) cancer
- (b) AIDS
- (c) TB
- (d) ulcers

25. What is the percentage of India's share in world exports?

- (a) 0.58
- (b) 1.28
- (c) 12.58
- (d) 15.28

26. The founding father of re-engineering, the management technique that advocates radical overhaul of business is:

- (a) Peter Drucker (b) Robert Townsend
(c) Michael Hammer (d) Jeff Hyman

27. According to a study by Political & Economic Risk Consultancy, the most corrupt country in the world is:

- (a) China (b) Indonesia (c) India
(d) Philippines

28. The top public issue manager in India is:

- (a) IDBI (b) ICICI Securities
(c) SBI Capital Markets (d) IFCI

29. The international firm Goldman Sachs is a:

- (a) Media company
(b) Diamond Merchants
(c) Entertainment company
(d) Investment and securities firm

For question 30-35, match the names of people with their companies or brands:

30. Samir Jain (a) Eicher
31. Nusli Wadia (b) Glaxo
32. Vikram Lal (c) ICT
33. Shiv Nadar (d) The Times of India
34. Samir Thapar (e) Bombay Dyeing
35. V Thyagarajan (f) HCL

36. Intra-regional trade among the SAARC countries as a percentage of their total world trade in 1993 is:

- (a) 1.2 (b) 3.4 (c) 7.8 (d) 9.2

37. Which company is the market leader in computers?

- (a) Wipro Infotech (b) Tata Information Systems
(c) Digital Equipment
(d) HCL Hewlett-Packard

38. What was the level of Indian software exports in 1994-95?

- (a) Rs 1000 crore (b) Rs 1250 crore
(c) Rs 1500 crore (d) Rs 1750 crore

39. Which company led in software exports?

- (a) Tata Consultancy Services (b) Tata Unisys
(c) Digital Equipment (d) NIIT

40. The ministry of civil supplies has recently made printing of maximum retail price compulsory on two items. Which ones?

- (a) Soft drinks and ink (b) Cigarettes and salt
(c) Soft drinks and butter (d) Cigarettes and whisky

41. Of the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) approved by India in 1995, which industry heads the list?

- (a) Chemicals and Fertilizers (b) Metallurgical Industry
(c) Textiles (d) Telecommunications

42. Which company in India is the only manufacturer of vitamin B₁₂ in Asia?

- (a) Burroughs Wellcome (b) Sandoz
(c) Cadila (d) Merind

43. What is Concord?

- (a) An economic zone of North Indian States
(b) Consortium of arms manufacturers
(c) Association of Indian industry
(d) A new business magazine to be launched shortly

44. How many unions have been registered in West Bengal?

- (a) 157 (b) 2144

(c) 7857

(d) 14344

45. Which bank was ordered to close in the US following reports of conspiracy and fraud?

- (a) Barings (b) Sumitomo
(c) Daiwa (d) Shanghai Bank

46. "Every Street is Paved with Gold" is the name of the book written by the founder chairman of a leading car manufacturer. Which one?

- (a) Toyota (b) General Motors (c) Ford
(d) Daewoo

47. Out of the 5 lakh jobs estimated to be generated in the next two years, which industry groups will generate 4 lakh, or 80 per cent of the jobs?

- (a) Telecom and Food Processing
(b) Telecom and software
(c) Finance and stock market related
(d) Software and Finance

48. What is the rate of growth of employment in India for 1993-94?

- (a) 1.00 per cent (b) 1.96 per cent
(c) 3.24 per cent (d) 5.58 per cent

49. What is the total proposed investment by the newly created Amitabh Bachchan Corporation Ltd?

- (a) Rs 100 crore (b) Rs 700 crore
(c) Rs 1200 crore (d) Rs 1500 crore

50. Which company are Bombay Dyeing and Torrent group trying to take over?

- (a) Britannia Industries
(b) Asian Paints
(c) Pfizer Ltd
(d) Ahmedabad Electric Company

ANSWERS

1 (b) 2 (d) 3 (a)

4 (a) Nirma holds 40.1 per cent market share.

5 (d) 6 (c) He is the Director General of WTO.

7 (c) 8 (a) 9 (b) 10 (d)

11 (b) Casablanca in Morocco. It has been planned by Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO).

12 (a) He is MD of Tata Steel.

13 (c) 14 (d) 15 (d) 16 (a) 17 (d)

18 (c) 19 (b) 20 (a) 21 (a) 22 (b)

23 (d) 24 (c) 25 (a) 26 (c)

27 (a) India is ranked at third position.

28 (c) 29 (d) 30 (d) 31 (e) 32 (a)

33 (f) 34 (c) 35 (b) 36 (b) 37 (d)

38 (c) 39 (a) 40 (c)

41 (b) Metallurgical industry 17%, followed by Fuels 16%, Services 12%, and Chemicals & Fertilisers 12%.

42 (d) 43 (a) 44 (d) 45 (c)

46 (d) Kim Woo-Chong, founder of Daewoo.

47 (a) 48 (b) 49 (b) 50 (d)

SCORE

45-50 correct: excellent

40-44 correct: good

36-39 correct: fair

ADMISSION ALERT

THE COMPETITION MASTER'S GUIDE TO FORTHCOMING EXAMINATIONS

This column is being expanded to include the admission notices of all courses, including management institutes. It will alert our readers of the forthcoming examinations for careers and recruitment. Information for this column should be sent well in advance to be included in this feature. Readers are advised to see their own suitability before applying—this column is not a recommendation of any course or institute.

Civil Services

1. **Civil Services Preliminary:** Exam to be held on June 9, 1996. Apply to: The Under Secretary (CSP), UPSC, Dholpur House, New Delhi—110 011 with a crossed DD/IPO for Rs 40, two signed passport photographs and s.a.e. of size 11.5 x 27.5 cm along with completed application in the prescribed format.

2. **Combined Defence Services:** Exam to be held on May 12, 1996. For eligibility and application details see advertisement published on October 28.

3. **Indian Forest Service:** Exam to be held on July 14, 1996. Eligibility: B.Sc degree. Age limit: 21-28 years. Last date: February 26, 1996. Advertisement published on January 1, 1996.

4. **Engineering Services:** Exam to be held on August 4, 1996. Eligibility: M.Sc. Age Limit: 20-28 years. Last Date: March 18, 1996. Advertisement will be published on February 3, 1996.

5. **Railway Apprentices:** Exam to be held on September 2, 1996. Eligibility: 10+2 with science in the first or second division. Age limit: 16-20 years. Last date: April 8, 1996. Advertisement will be published on February 24, 1996.

Engineering

IIT-Joint Entrance Examination (JEE): To be held on May 4, 1996. For admission to IITs and Institute of Technology, Varanasi for B.Tech, B.Arch, B.Pharm, M.Sc and M.Tech programmes. Apply to: any IIT with a DD/PO for Rs 350 and two s.a. stickers for application forms. By cash from Union Bank in IIT Delhi Zone, SBI in IIT Kanpur and Madras, Canara Bank in IIT Kharagpur and Bombay.

Marine Engineering

Marine Engineering Degree (4 years) at MERI, Calcutta and B.Sc (Nautical Science) at T S Chanakya, Bombay: For information brochure, contact: Controller, DGS Admission Cell, Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan SPJIMR, Munshi Nagar, Dadahai Road Andheri (West) Bombay - 400 058; or: Directorate General of Shipping, Jahaz Bhawan, Walchand Hirachand Marg, Ballard Estate, Bombay - 400 038, with a crossed IPO of Rs 25 payable to Director General of Shipping at GPO, Bombay. Also enclose a s.a.s.e. size 30 X 12 cm with stamps of Rs 12.

Management

1. **Common MBA Admission Test (MBAT):** To be conducted on January 14, 1996. Eligibility: Graduate in any discipline. Apply with DD for Rs 100 to: ATS, 407 Vishal Tower, District Centre Janakpuri, New Delhi - 110 058.

2. **PG Diploma in Business Management (2 year full time or 3 year part time):** Written Test: February 25, 1996. Last date: January 31,

1996. Apply to: Registrar, International Institute of Management & Technology, 17 Mall Road, Meerut Cantt with DD of Rs 300. Forms also available at: Mastermind, 1029 (FF) Sector 46 B, Chandigarh.

3. **PG Diploma in Business Management (2 year full time or 3 year part time):** Written Test: March 3, 1996. Last date: January 18, 1996. Apply to: Apeejay School of Marketing, 54 Tughlaqabad Institutional Area, Mehrauli Badarpur Road, New Delhi—110 062 with a DD of Rs 350.

4. **MBA (2 year, full time):** Written test: February 25, 1996. Last date: January 27, 1996. Eligibility: Graduate with minimum 50 per cent marks. Apply to: Director Faculty of Management Sciences, M L Sukhadia University, Udaipur with a DD of Rs 175.

5. **MBA and Master of Tourism Management (MTA):** Written Test: February 25, 1996. Last date: January 18, 1996. Apply to: The Dean, School of Management, Pondicherry University, Pondicherry - 605 014 with a DD of Rs 250 in favour of The Finance Officer Pondicherry University and a s.a.s.e. with stamps of Rs 10.

6. **MBA:** Written test: March 10, 1996. Last date: February 29, 1996. Eligibility: Bachelor's or Master's degree. Apply to: The Admissions Coordinator, Department of Management Studies, Regional Engineering College, Tiruchirappali - 620 015 with a DD of Rs 300 drawn in favour of Principal, REC.

Social Sciences

MA in Social Work and in Personnel Management & Industrial Relations: Last date: February 29 for Social Work, January 31 for PM&IR. Apply to: Assistant Registrar (Academic), Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Post Box No. 8313, Sion Trombay Road, Deonar, Bombay - 400 088 with a DD for Rs 150 payable to TISS, Bombay and a s.a.s.e. with stamps of Rs 6.

Communications

Regular and distance learning programs in Journalism, PR, Advertising & Marketing: Eligibility: Graduation. Apply to: Director, School of Communication & Management Studies, S Kalamassery, Cochin—682 033.

Hospitality

Diploma in Hospitality Management, Catering and Tourism: Written Test on May 19, 1996 by AIMA. Last date: April 15, 1996. Eligibility: 10+2 for 3 year program and graduation for 2 year program. Apply to: Graduate School of Business, Opposite ALT Centre, Raj Nagar Post Box No 5, Ghaziabad - 201 001 with a DD of Rs 300.

Fashion Technology

Diplomas in Fashion Design, Textile Design and Apparel Merchandising: (Full time and part time): Courses Commencing Jan '96 and Aug '96. Eligibility: 10 + 2 for diploma and graduation for post-graduate courses. Last date: January 31. Apply to: International Institute of Fashion Technology, H-12 South Extension Part I, New Delhi—110 049 with a DD for Rs 75.

VOCABULARY

Improve Your Word Power

- 1 **abattoir**: (a) marriage bureau (b) orphanage (c) dance-club (d) slaughter house
- 2 **blight** (v): (a) prosper (b) ignore (c) wither (d) learn
- 3 **chary** (a) careless (b) obedient (c) cautious (d) arrogant
- 4 **desultory**: (a) descriptive (b) narrative (c) explosive (d) aimless
- 5 **eerie**: (a) ghostly (b) emotional (c) scholarly (d) empty
- 6 **fogey/fogy**: (a) conservative (b) courageous (c) timid (d) depressed
- 7 **gumption**: (a) initiative (b) failure (c) audience (d) inspiration
- 8 **hogwash** (a) non-sense (b) delight (c) non-issue (d) promotion
- 9 **incense**: (a) glorify (b) make angry (c) flatter (d) understand
- 10 **junkie**: (a) prisoner (b) speech-writer (c) freedom fighter (d) drug addict
- 11 **knotty**: (a) successful (b) difficult (c) passive (d) hollow
- 12 **lachrymose** (a) cheerful (b) tearful (c) different (d) similar
- 13 **muddle** (a) demote (b) confuse (c) confirm (d) construct
- 14 **opulence**: (a) poverty (b) submission (c) abundance (d) preparation
- 15 **putsch** (a) armed conflict (b) heated discussion (c) political revolution (d) abusive language
- 16 **randy** (a) modest (b) talkative (c) secretive (d) lustful
- 17 **salacity**: (a) cooperation (b) conflict (c) carnage (d) indecency
- 18 **tittle-tattle** (a) silly talk (b) serious discussion (c) back-biting (d) suggestion
- 19 **vivacious** (a) tired (b) lively (c) proud (d) moderate
- 20 **watershed**: (a) get-together (b) morning assembly (c) turning point (d) tragic end

ANSWERS

- 1 **abattoir**: (d) slaughter-house
—The Court has ordered the civic authorities to shut the *abattoir* outside the walled city
- 2 **blight** (v): (c) wither, mar
—The bright career of my friend was *blighted* by an accident or ill-health
- 3 **chary**: (c) cautious
—Political parties are *chary* of accepting donations from the corporate sector over the table
- 4 **desultory**: (d) aimless, erratic
—In a highly competitive world of today, working in a *desultory* manner for success is sure to result in disappointment
- 5 **eerie**: (a) ghostly, unearthly, mysterious
—After the blast, an *eerie* silence descended over the town

- 6 **fogey/fogy**: (a) conservative, not progressive
—I invited my friend to come to the disco and stop being an old *fogy* (*fogey*)
- 7 **gumption**: (a) initiative common sense
—He is a nice enough lad, but he doesn't seem to have much *gumption*
- 8 **hogwash** (a) non-sense
—It is nothing but *hogwash* to fear that liberal import of consumer goods would harm Indian industries
- 9 **incense**: (b) make angry
—Any talk or suggestion to close down the sick public sector units is bound to *incense* the affected persons
- 10 **junkie**: (d) drug addict
—The war against drug addiction would not succeed unless the *junkies* are properly rehabilitated and respected by the society
- 11 **knotty**: (b) difficult, puzzling
—How to break the unholy nexus between crime and politics has become a *knotty* problem for the Indian polity
- 12 **lachrymose** (b) tearful mournful
—Studies have established that such persons as have *lachrymose* disposition, are a misfit in social groups
- 13 **muddle**: (b) confuse
—I *muddled* (up) the dates and arrived three days late in the family function
- 14 **opulence**: (c) abundance wealth
—Conspicuous consumerism is the result of *opulence* both in developed and developing societies
- 15 **putsch**: (c) political revolution
—The chances of a *putsch* taking place suddenly are much higher in the strife-torn African States
- 16 **randy** (d) lustful
—When her grand father was young, he was known to be *randy* and was an expert in writing love letters
- 17 **salacity**: (d) indecency obscenity
—Some advertisers are resorting to *salacity* in advertisements in order to reach out the young and the naive
- 18 **tittle-tattle**: (a) silly talk, petty gossip
—In order to push up their circulation, some vernacular or local news-papers make a liberal use of *tittle tattle* in their columns
- 19 **vivacious**: (b) lively, gay, spirited
—After hearing the speeches made in her honour, the graceful lady gave a *vivacious* laugh
- 20 **watershed** (c) turning point
—Emergency and its excesses proved a *watershed* in the political history of India

General Studies Scene

Q. 1. Write a short note on the rise and growth of the left wing within the Congress during the national movement.

Ans. The Russian Revolution in the year 1917 aroused the interest of intellectuals and politicians in India in the doctrines of communism and socialism. Even within Indian National Congress, several forward looking leaders' views got biased in favour of socialism. With the formation of USSR these doctrines, in fact, caught the fancy of right thinking people almost all over the world. The idea of the ownership of natural and economic resources by the community as a whole appealed to most of the educated persons, particularly the younger generation. At this point of time, Gandhiji had just come at the helm of affairs and had his own ideology for attaining the freedom of the country. As Gandhiji had not got himself fully entrenched in the Congress, several radical nationalists were not satisfied with the ways and means adopted by Gandhiji to persuade the Britishers. Cancellation and virtual failure of non-cooperation movement convinced the dissidents about the fruitlessness of Gandhi's ideas for giving momentum to the Nationalist movement. There was a group of Congressmen who formed Swaraj Party, but several others did not even agree with the Swarajists. The principles of economic equality, power to the peasants and workers and upliftment of the downtrodden were too attractive to the Younger of Congressmen to dissuade them from getting attracted to socialism. Many young "radicals" were convinced in their mind that the independent India should ideally be a socialist State.

A good number of socialists remained within and worked from within the Congress. Leftist tendencies among several prominent Congressmen were so strong that they openly disagreed with the ideology of the party on several issues. This class of socialists was not typically radical communists and hardly believed in the classwar. But these leaders certainly developed strong sympathy towards the poorer section of the society and strongly wished to remove their sufferings. Pt Jawaharlal Nehru and Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose were the two most prominent "socialist" Congressmen. The very fact that Pt Jawaharlal Nehru was elected President of the Congress during 1936 and 1937 and Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from 1938 to 1939 reflects the complete dominance of the Congress by the socialist ideology during these years. However, after this period socialists in Congress suffered a setback when Subhash Chandra Bose left the party and Jawaharlal Nehru also decided to maintain low profile. One of the most important achievement of socialist Congressmen was that the Congress declared to strive for socialistic pattern of society as its goal after independence. Moreover, the leftist tenden-

cies in the Congress ideology continued to dominate its policies for decades even after the independence. The decision of the Government to have Five Year Plans even after independence on the pattern of erstwhile USSR and to have a pattern of mixed economy with a dominant Public Sector, reflects the clear leftist influence in Congress ideology even after independence. The influence did not breathe its last with the demise of Jawaharlal Nehru but continued to dominate the socio-economic policies of the Government even during the time of Mrs Indira Gandhi who was instrumental in bank nationalisation, launching of Integrated Rural Development Programme, workers' participation in management and adding the word "Socialist" in the preamble of Indian Constitution. The leftist impact was so deep-rooted that even today, despite the process of reforms being experienced, Congress ideology is considered to be "left of the Centre" ideology.

Q. 2. Indian Constitution is federal in nature but has also been called "quasi-federal". Critically analyse the federal system envisaged in the Indian Constitution.

Ans. Indian Constitution has several features which makes it federal. Distribution of powers among the Union and the States and provision of a House of States (Rajya Sabha) are some of the features which make Indian Constitution a federal Constitution. With a view to avoid demerits of the federal system, Indian Constitution has several distinct features. These include lack of division of public services and the control of the Union Government over the provincial governments, more powers to the Union Government and keeping the residual powers with the Centre.

It is because of these provisions that perhaps Prof Wheare has called Indian Constitution to be a quasi-federal Constitution which, as per him is a unitary state with subsidiary federal features. Among the diverse views on this subject it is pertinent to mention that Indian federal system is a distinct deviation from the American "pure" federation. But considering the constitutional amendments and practice of government during the past about five decades, it appears that the unitary aspects of the Constitution have been strengthened and the federal characters have withered away. By keeping almost entire kitty of developmental funds through a non-constitutional body known as Planning Commission, the Union Government has subjected the provincial governments to secondary position. This has prompted several scholars like Granville Austin to dub Indian system as a "Cooperative federalism" which produces a strong central government without necessarily resulting in weak provincial governments, which have turned out to be administrative agencies

for implementing the Central policies.

Yet another view is that Indian political system has emerged as a compromise between two conflicting considerations. First being a normal separation of powers under which the States enjoy complete autonomy within their areas of employment, while the other being the need for national integration, which in turn needs a strong Union government. Same views have been expressed by the Supreme Court of India while disposing of a case titled as *Automobile Transport Vs State of Rajasthan* and in *Keshwananda Vs Union of India*, where some of the judges considered federalism to be one of the basic features of Indian Constitution. It has been recognised by the Supreme Court that while maintaining a delicate balance among the above mentioned two conflicting considerations, there must be a power of intervention by the Union Government in a situation of crisis to deal with the peculiar problems that may arise before the Government.

There is no denying the fact that Indian Constitution is federal in nature but the dominance of the Centre also cannot be ignored. One of the most outstanding feature of Indian Constitution is that even despite political differences among the Union and provincial governments, the system has been able to survive over four and a half decades. Despite these glaring differences in the political character of the Government, the system is pulling on smoothly. Another factor which goes in favour of federalism in India is that more and more territories have demanded and granted Statehood. The demand for Statehood from Chhota Nagpur area, Uttarakhand area and several other territories augurs well for Indian federal system. Yet another factor which goes in favour of Indian federalism is the growing demand by several provincial governments to be given more and more financial power. Not only financial powers are sought by the States, several State governments are vying for more constitutional powers as well.

To conclude, Indian political system is neither purely a federation nor strictly a unitary system. It introduces a system which usually functions as a federation but contains several provisions which convert it into a quasi-federal or unitary system at the time of emergencies.

Q. 3. Describe in details the Special Area Development Programmes. Also describe how the Government proposes to encourage these programmes during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Ans. The Government of India has four special area development plans viz Hill Areas Development Plan, North Eastern Council, Border Area Development Programme and Desert Development Programme. The details of these programmes is as under:

(a) **Hill Area Development Programme:** Hill areas, as it has been recognized by the Government, need special attention as lack of material make these areas difficult to live. With a view to ensure that the fruits of economic development also reach these areas, particularly in the Himalayan region and the north eastern States, the Government of India has introduced a programme

called Hill Area Development Programme. These areas face certain peculiar but serious problems like ecological degradation, shortage of drinking the irrigation water supply, social erosion, lack of employment opportunities and utter lack of industrialisation. There are two types of hill areas, firstly the areas which are co-extensive with the boundaries of the State concerned like Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Meghalaya, Nagaland etc. Secondly, there are "Designated Hill Areas" like the Hills of Uttar Pradesh, Nilgiris of Tamil Nadu, major part of Darjeeling District of West Bengal and two hill districts of Assam. The basic objective of Hill Area Development Programme is the socio-economic development of the hilly regions and to ensure that the people in these areas live in complete harmony with the nature and ecology. Special emphasis are placed on stopping the degradation of hills, efforts to contain population growth, strengthening of afforestation programmes, up-gradation of agricultural skills and methods, up-gradation of technologies, developing marketing infrastructure etc. During the Eighth Five Year Plan, an outlay of Rs 1450 crore has been kept for implementing this programme.

(b) **North Eastern Council:** North Eastern Council (NEC) was set up in the year 1972 under North Eastern Council Act 1971 with its secretariat at Shillong (Meghalaya). It is an advisory body and discusses matters of common interest of two or more States and to advise the Central government and the concerned State governments in such matters. The council also has several projects in hand. These projects are mainly of mutual interests to the member States. The funds are provided by the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, which has been designed as the nodal agency for this purpose. As against the Seventh Plan outlay of Rs 675 crore, the Eighth Plan envisages Rs 1100 crore for the NEC.

(c) **Border Area Development Programme:** A new programme for the development of border area development was initiated during the Seventh Plan. This programme is funded entirely by the Central Government. The objective of this programme is the balanced development of sensitive border areas in the Western regions falling in the States of Gujarat, Rajasthan and Punjab. Main thrust of the programme is on education, irrigation and research studies. The outlay under this programme during the Eighth Plan is Rs 640 crore.

(d) **Desert Development Programme:** This programme was initiated in 1977-78 on the recommendations of National Commission on agriculture. It covers both, the hot deserts of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Haryana as well as cold deserts of Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh. It is operative in 131 blocks of 21 districts in 5 States covering a total population of over 15 million. It aims at controlling the process of desertification, mitigating the effect of drought, raising productivity of land and maintaining the ecological balance. The allocation under the programme is @ Rs 24 lakh per 1000 sq kms with the limit of Rs 500 lakhs per district.

Questions on Social and Economic Problems

Population and Economic Growth

Q. Discuss the relationship between population growth and economic growth and suggest some measures the government can take to curb the former.

Ans. More and more people feel now that economic reforms should give considerable attention to population too. The relationship between economic growth and population has been much talked about. This is, in fact, a circular relationship.

Increasing population hampers economic growth. Some very basic results of unprecedented population increase are in fact related to the social infrastructure and essential needs of people. Rapid population growth makes it difficult for governments to provide required levels of health, water and sanitation services and makes it difficult to attain good health outcomes. Education is also affected. The quality of education provided by the government remains poor especially in rural India. While lower population growth would make it easy for the government to provide better education, education in turn would further help curb population growth.

Income inequality also rises with higher rates of population growth. High population density leads to large declines in real incomes of landless labourers while large landowners experience sharp increases in the rents paid to them.

Population growth also results into a greater demand for energy for household use. Since income levels are low, energy consumed is mainly non-conventional. Employment pressures lead to changing land use patterns such as diversion of fallow forest land to permanent clearing for

cultivation, burning of forest land and grass land, creation of wet lands and increased carbon emissions in the air. Decrease in population pressures would equip the government with greater resources to tackle this problem.

Thus, we can find enough evidence that rapid population growth goes with low standards of well being and slower growth of per capita incomes.

The other side is the effect that the extent of economic growth can have on population growth. Slow economic growth and poverty also cause rapid population growth. Poor quality of health services, poor nutrition, lack of immunization—all these combine to result in low life expectancy and high infant mortality. Poor quality education prevents people to get out of the cycle of poverty. An analysis of the experience of China and South East Asian countries has shown that they had well planned, well thought of paths of economic development. Besides that, they also paid attention to education and health services—particularly that of women. Indian States of Kerala and Tamil Nadu also experienced that.

It is now increasingly felt that our economic freedom should extend itself to the population policy. There are a number of implications for Government policy. While people have to be discouraged to produce more children, there also have to be efforts to improve prospects for economic growth. There is a need for investment in human development for (i) improving child nutrition and health (ii) reducing infant mortality (iii) increasing schooling, especially for girls (iv) increasing adult (especially adult female) literacy (v) improving maternal health and nutrition with special attention to girl children.

For this, the government must invest in school and health care facilities, more effective preventive health programmes, cheap food availability to all sections of the community especially children, social security for the old.

Some analysts have extended the concept of liberalization or "opening up" to population policy requirements also. An isolated, inward looking economy hinders competition and leads to inefficiency. This inefficiency tends to creep into social sectors also. Thus population policy must be now made up of a complex set of inter-related policies of which economic policies are a major component. The Government needs to invest in building human capital and provide opportunities for improvement to all. Inequalities in educational opportunity must be reduced. This would bring in reduction in income inequalities also. Industry and trade are benefitting from a free, "enabling environment". Now this concept should be extended to human development also.

Power Policy

Q. "A comprehensive power policy is the need of the day." Comment.

Ans. The demand for power has been rising steadily since independence because of easy availability and relatively low prices. However, adequate supply is lacking and this has become a matter of grave concern for the country. Although the public sector had always dominated the power generation scene, the government has now felt the need to invite the private sector to invest on new power generation projects. The eighth plan anticipated an 8.21% p.a. growth of demand, assuming a GDP growth of 5.6% p.a. Other estimates

calculated power shortage to be 4.2% in 1995-96 and 18.4% by 1996-97.

Another problem relates to the financial constraints. Of the total outlay of Rs 79,589 crores Rs 31,181 crores was outlayed for the Central sector of which only Rs 8902 crores would receive budget support. The rest is supposed to come from internal and extra-budgetary resources. The actual plan expenditure in the power sector during the first three years of the eighth plan has already been short of the target by Rs 5500 crores. The impact of this would obviously be felt on power generation. Already, the demand supply gap in setting up incremental power capacity is very high. It is expected that the power shortage is expected to be higher unless the private sector (including foreign investment) comes into the picture.

Thus it was that in the context of paucity of resources with the Central and State Public Sector Undertakings and State Electricity Boards, a policy for encouraging greater investments by private enterprises in the private sector was formulated in 1991. The Government also dereserved power generation. Besides, the tariff notifications were also amended thrice thus giving additional incentives to investors. There has also been a hike in incentives for hydro-electric projects. Some package of measures were also worked out for renovation, modernisation and uprating of old power plants. The response to such initiatives was found to be encouraging. Till the time of the Annual Report of 1994-95, 137 offers had been received for setting up power plants for a total capacity of 59,866 MW involving an investment of approximately Rs 2,20,312 crores. Also, the five existing domestic private power companies also formulated plans to execute projects for a total new capacity addition of 1342 MW during the eighth plan period. However, this issue has met with a lot of criticism and faced a number of handicaps. One such example is the Enron controversy.

The most important obstacle to private and foreign investment in India's power sector is said to be the lack of a

well-structured policy. Some of the major obstacles in attracting private investment have been the lack of access to the final market, the poor performance of the State Electricity Boards (SEBs), their poor record for meeting payment obligations and the non-availability of SEBs or the State Governments' credit rating in International financial market.

In this context, a study sponsored by the World Bank a few years ago criticised India's strategy for power development as one that is "economically inefficient and probably not sustainable financially". Thus, a refocussing was thought necessary. It is important for the State Electricity Boards and the State Governments to solve the issues of credit worthiness; pricing and regulation.

Hence it is clear that given the wide gap between the demand and supply of power and the various problems faced by the Central and State governments in providing for the gap, it is important to have a well-formulated, well-structured power policy in the country.

External Sector

Q. The external sector is said to have shown major signs of improvement under the reform process. Give arguments For and Against the view.

Ans. *It has been claimed that the reforms have been most successful in respect of the foreign sector. The following arguments examine the contention.*

Arguments For

The claims relate to the successful handling of the balance of payments crisis that the country was faced with in June 1991, the corrections brought about in foreign trade imbalances and the improvement brought about in foreign exchange reserves (increase from \$ 1 billion in 1991 to over \$ 25 billion in April 1995).

The Indian economy has witnessed various reforms during the past four years, the impact of which have been felt mainly on the volume of exports and the accumulation of foreign exchange reserves. A process of decontrol, delicensing and de-

regulation that started in 1991 resulted in changes in the trade scenario. Especially significant was the relief brought by trends in exports and imports, 1993-94 onwards. The trade deficit shrunk. Exports grew at over 20 per cent in the first half of the fiscal year and later at 17 per cent—a figure that was double the historical growth of 8 per cent. Imports in 1993-94 grew at a lower rate than 1992-93. Notable was the fact that exports to the South East Asian countries (Indonesia, Malaysia, Hong Kong, South Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Taiwan) showed improvements. During 1994-95 some more export benefits were also introduced e.g. rupee convertibility extended from the trade account to the current account and retention of 25 per cent of earnings by exporters, as against the earlier 15 per cent. Exports grew by a further of 17 per cent during the first ten months of 1994-95. Foreign exchange reserves have also shown tremendous increases over the past three-four years. The figure touched \$ 13 billion by the end of 1993-94. In April-December 1994, the forex reserves showed an increase of \$ 4.5 billion. By February 1995 the figure stood at \$ 19.6 billion and finally, in April 1995, it had touched \$ 25 billion. Exports were at \$ 20.87 billion while imports \$ 22.71 billion during April '94-January 1995.

It is in this context that the external sector is said to have been favourably affected by the reform process.

Arguments Against

The much claimed increase in high foreign exchange reserves doesn't reflect Indian earnings due to any surplus of our exports over imports. In fact, it is more an indication of what has been raised through loans and also, the incomings in the form of foreign investments. That is, the apparent increase is merely temporary. Although we can use these resources to finance our foreign transactions e.g. paying for imports repayment of loans etc, whatever has been borrowed would have to be returned and whatever has come in as deposits or even as investments can be taken away.

The Economic Survey 1994-95 gave

an account of the \$ 9 billion (roughly) worth of foreign exchange that became available in 1993-94. This comprises \$ 1.7 billion external assistance, \$ 0.8 billion commercial borrowing, \$ 0.2 billion from the IMF, \$ 0.9 billion NRI deposits, \$ 4.1 billion foreign investments and "other flows" such as delayed export receipts. However, this form of building up reserves has its own problems. Most of these amounts have to be repaid some time. The bulk of foreign capital that has come in has been portfolio investment and this is basically "floating capital"—always in search of profits. Thus, having this as a major component introduces both volatility and risk in the economy. Also, movement of funds into and out of the country affects the value of its own currency. The Indian rupee has shown immense volatility and this affects other sectors also.

The increase in exports has been largely affected by changes in the world

trade patterns (although effect of reform measures can't be fully denied). Moreover, a mere increase doesn't mean much. The composition of exports still remains more or less the same. The major areas are readymade garments, other textiles and handicrafts i.e. traditional items still dominate and there has been only a marginal increase in goods from the engineering and chemical industries.

Import intensity is also expected to increase because of reduction in the import duty on capital goods. In that case, inspite of an increase in exports, the import increase could widen the gap between the two.

Foreign debt remains a matter of concern. India got into heavy indebtedness during the liberalisation process of the 1980s especially during the New Economic Policy under Rajiv Gandhi's prime ministership. The total external indebtedness of the economy has been

going up—though, in all fairness it must be said that as a percentage of GDP it has come down.

India's external debt at the end of March 1995 stood at \$ 99.04 billion—showing an increase of \$ 6.34 billion in one year. A report released by the finance ministry said that we are not in a danger of falling into a debt trap. However, India's debt service ratio is high by international standards and there is an urgent need for increase in exports.

It is the general opinion that while external sector reforms have improved, they still remain vulnerable. Anticipated problems are the future rise in oil imports after 1998 and the repayment of about \$ 24 billion during the next four years. Another matter of grave concern is that the NRI foreign currency accounts and the high level of portfolio investments can be withdrawn without much difficulty thus bringing in a lot of vulnerability in the economy.

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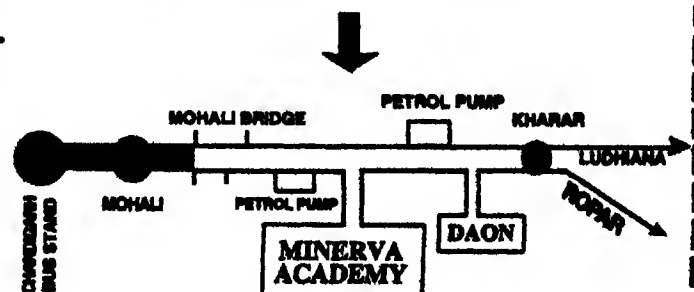
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ENGLISH LANGUAGE

BSRB (Baroda) P.O.s. Exam, 23rd April, 1995

Q. 1-6. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words/phrases are printed in bold to help you to locate them while answering some of the questions.

The United States constitutes the only superpower in the sense that its reach and ambition is global both militarily and economically. On every issue of any importance that confronts Indian foreign policy making, U.S. interests and capabilities are vital, and it is this **ubiquitousness** that makes it different from any other powerful state. Some argue that this is temporary: that the U.S. is in decline; that the Russians will be back; that the Germans, Japanese, or Europeans are coming; that China is not far away. In short, we occupy a period of transition from a bipolar to a multipolar world, a period that may constitute a unipolar moment but that will pass.

No one who holds this view can tell us how long the transition will be, when the unipolar moment will pass. I shall not essay a prediction either, but if it is a transition it remains true that it is a transition marked by unipolarity—whether that means, to use Varun Sahni's terms, a unipolarity of outright '**hegemony**', simple 'primacy', or mere 'dominance'. My judgement is that the U.S. is somewhere between primacy and dominance, depending on the issue. The question is: how do we deal with hegemony, primacy or dominance?

In dealing with a big power, a smaller power must choose from the following basic orientations : balancing, bandwagoning, and hiding. In a unipolar world, the general trend of foreign policy will be to bandwagon. Middle powers will need to bandwagon less than small powers and on particular issues may be able to balance or hide. India as a middle power is in no position overall to balance the

U.S.: who will serve as a ballast? Nor can India substantially hide. Hiding implies one of two things : exiting on retreating from the world, in the way that Burma attempted; or lying low. Who will allow India to veil itself from an ever more **intrusive** global gaze; and, if it were possible in some areas to do so, would it not be disastrous in others?

1. Why is the view taken by U.S. vital in deciding important issues of foreign policy of India?

- (1) It is hegemonistic and confronts India on every issue
- (2) It has global reach and interests
- (3) India is in the phase of transition
- (4) It expects others to follow bandwagoning approach
- (5) Not given in the passage

2. '_____but that will pass'. Means_____

- (1) it will qualify
- (2) it will reach that standard
- (3) shortly this phase will be over
- (4) this phase will come back
- (5) that determination is lost

3. The world is heading towards which of the following options?

- (1) Towards Unipolar via multipolar movement
- (2) Towards bipolar from multipolar movement
- (3) From multipolar to unipolar via bipolar movement
- (4) From bipolar to multipolar via unipolar movement
- (5) From multipolar to bipolar via unipolar movement

4. What is the author's view about 'hiding' in the context of India?

- (1) It is neither desirable nor possible for India to hide
- (2) India as middle power can hide successfully
- (3) India should follow Burma's

policy in this regard

- (4) It is desirable and India should do it
- (5) India can counter U.S. by resorting to hiding.

5. According to the passage which of the following countries will certainly replace U.S. and become the superpower?

- (1) Germany (2) Japan
- (3) China (4) Russia
- (5) Not mentioned in the passage

6. What seems to be the purpose of the author in writing this passage?

- (1) To evolve suitable policy for U.S.
- (2) To defend the U.S. policy
- (3) To criticise role of India in world affairs
- (4) To point out defects in India's foreign policy
- (5) None of these

7. According to the author, India_____

- (1) should bandwagon less and balance more
- (2) can neither balance superpower nor can hide from the world
- (3) should adopt a policy of primacy and dominance depending on the issue
- (4) can lead the transition from unipolar to bipolar position
- (5) should become a superpower

8. The smaller powers

- (1) are always in a position to choose
- (2) can only balance big powers
- (3) must serve as a ballast
- (4) need to fall in line with U.S. than middle powers
- (5) should allow U.S. to decide their foreign policy

9. Why is U.S. considered as superpower?

- (1) It serves as a ballast for all nations

- (2) It is in a phase of continuous transition
- (3) It has all pervading might and necessary will
- (4) It is strong militarily though not economically
- (5) Not mentioned in the passage

10. Why is India not in a position to balance U.S.?

- (1) It lacks basic orientation
- (2) It is a middle power country
- (3) It has veiled itself from others
- (4) It will lead to disastrous consequences

- (5) It is in a phase of transition

11. According to the author, U.S. is holding which of the following positions?

- (1) Not mentioned in the passage
- (2) Somewhere between primacy and dominance
- (3) Somewhere between primacy and hegemony
- (4) Somewhere between dominance and hegemony
- (5) Outright hegemony

Q. 12-15. Choose the word which is most nearly the SAME in meaning as the word given in capitals as used in the passage.

12. UBIQUITOUSNESS

- (1) intervention (2) fear
- (3) approach
- (4) omnipresence (5) feeling

13. USE

- (1) exhaust (2) spend
- (3) quote (4) work
- (5) consume

14. INTRUSIVE

- (1) obstructive (2) enlarged
- (3) sharp (4) alert
- (5) curious

15. CONSTITUTE

- (1) appoint (2) decide
- (3) settle (4) abandon
- (5) comprise

Q. 16-25. In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five words are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate words.

The year 1973 (66) a watershed in

the economic (67) of young male high school graduates in the United States. In the twenty-four years (68) to this date, the median income of 25 to 34 year old males (69) highest level of educational attainment was a high school diploma (70) from \$14,483 to \$24,482 (in constant 1987 dollars). This increase was the (71) of the rapid growth of the U.S. economy (72) this period. As the expression goes, the rapidly growing economy was like a rising tide that (73) all boats. This rapid (74) in income permitted several generations of young high-school-educated men to enjoy a higher standard of living (75) their fathers had.

- 16. (1) arranged (2) began
- (3) marked

- (4) substituted (5) took

- 17. (1) thinking
- (2) prospects
- (3) history
- (4) preparation
- (5) outcome

- 18. (1) subsequent
- (2) as (3) hence
- (4) prior (5) ahead

- 19. (1) since
- (2) when (3) where
- (4) though (5) whose

- 20. (1) increased
- (2) demanded
- (3) continued
- (4) reduced
- (5) started

- 21. (1) result (2) reason
- (3) demand
- (4) strength
- (5) expectation

- 22. (1) outside (2) between
- (3) during (4) from
- (5) after

- 23. (1) boasted (2) sunk
- (3) threatened (4) cracked
- (5) lifted

- 24. (1) outcome (2) increase
- (3) decrease
- (4) exchange
- (5) deterioration

- 25. (1) when (2) to
- (3) from (4) than

- (5) before

Q. 26-30. Rearrange the following five sentences A, B, C, D, E in the proper sequence so as to form a meaningful paragraph; then answer the questions given below them:

- (A) Indeed, the mutations that the family has undergone in this century have been more challenging than at any time of its evolution.

- (B) Thus, we have nuclear families, single parent families, surrogate families and global families to name just a few.

- (C) How these changes have re-defined our world view is an interesting field of study in themselves.

- (D) What we often forget is that the family as it exists today has expanded its orthodox definition to include several variations.

- (E) Each of these have brought their own attitudes and priorities.

26. Which sentence should come FOURTH in the paragraph?

- (1) A (2) B (3) C
- (4) D (5) E

27. Which sentence should come LAST in the paragraph?

- (1) A (2) B (c) C
- (4) D (5) E

28. Which sentence should come FIRST in the paragraph?

- (1) A (2) B (3) C
- (4) D (5) E

29. Which sentence should come SECOND in the paragraph?

- (1) A (2) B (3) C
- (4) D (5) E

30. Which sentence should come THIRD in the paragraph?

- (1) A (2) B (3) C
- (4) D (5) E

Q. 31-40. Read each sentence to find out whether there is any error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. The number of that part is the answer. If there is no error, the answer is '5'. (Ignore the errors of punctuation, if any.)

31. We have helped them not

only(1) with money but also(2) with new machinery(3) and raw material(4). No error(5).

32. We wanted to purchase(1) something but all the three stores(2) in that area(3) were closed on that day(4). No error(5).

33. Of all the men(1) known to me none is(2) less inclined than he is(3) to think ill to others(4). No error(5).

34. One out of every five people(1) now speak English(2) to some level of competence(3) all over the globe(4). No error(5).

35. I have had to work(1) at the fountain for almost(2) ten hours before it could(3) start functioning well(4). No error(5).

36. No sooner did the jeep(1) arrive at the station(2) than a young police officer(3) jumped out of it(4). No error(5).

37. Well, I spend six or seven years(1) after high school(2) trying to find a job for me(3) but could not succeed in it(4). No error(5).

38. The teacher promised(1) that he will explain it(2) if they come (3) before school the following day(4). No error(5).

39. The Hindi and the Marathi are(1) different forms of the Sanskrit language,(2) which were once spoken(3) in almost every part of India(4). No error(5).

40. The new facts he(1) has discovered and the new(2) arguments he has advanced(3) has not changed my opinion(4). No error(5).

41. Dinesh is as stupid as he is lazy, means_____

- (1) Dinesh is stupid because he is lazy.
- (2) Dinesh is lazy because he is stupid.
- (3) Dinesh is either stupid or lazy.
- (4) Dinesh is hardly stupid but he is lazy.
- (5) Dinesh is equally stupid and lazy.

42. Unless you work harder you will fail, means_____

- (1) if you fail you will work harder.
- (2) you must at least plan well than you will not fail.

(3) hardly you will fail if you do not desire so.

(4) if you do not put more efforts, then you will fail.

(5) if you only work and work alone, you will fail.

43. Even if it rains I shall come, means_____

- (1) if I come it will not rain.
- (2) if it rains I shall not come.
- (3) I will certainly come whether it rains or not.
- (4) whenever there is rain I shall come.
- (5) I am less likely to come if it rains.

44. Mahesh needn't have purchased the bag, means_____

- (1) it was not necessary for Mahesh to purchase the bag but he has purchased it.
- (2) it was necessary for Mahesh to purchase the bag and he has purchased it.
- (3) it was not necessary for Mahesh to purchase the bag and he has not purchased it.
- (4) it was necessary for Mahesh to purchase the bag but he has not purchased it.
- (5) Mahesh already has a bag but still he purchased another one.

45. The Manager would like you to help Dhiraj, means_____

- (1) the Manager would like you if you help Dhiraj.
- (2) the Manager desires you to help Dhiraj.
- (3) the Manager likes you because you help Dhiraj.
- (4) Dhiraj expects the Manager to tell you to help him.
- (5) it will be a help to the Manager if you like Dhiraj.

Q. 46-50. Each question below has two blanks. There are five pairs of words below the sentence. Each pair is numbered. Choose the pair of words which can be filled up in the blanks in the sentence in the same order so as to complete the sentence meaningfully.

46. If we do not take_____care in our industry, we will have to_____a grave problem.

- (1) adequate, catch
- (2) normal, experience

- (3) proper, face
- (4) preventive, solve
- (5) intensive, aggravate

47. One must accept_____there is_____something new which we learn everyday.

- (1) since, frequently
- (2) so, always
- (3) now, sudden
- (4) truly, certainly
- (5) that, often

48. I would like to_____your attention to the second paragraph of my letter_____to the terms of sale of the machinery.

- (1) withdraw, regarding
- (2) focus, connecting
- (3) react, mainly
- (4) draw, pertaining
- (5) invite, according

49. Mahesh_____a bit_____he was not invited by his friend to attend the party.

- (1) expressed, than
- (2) grumbled, when
- (3) angered, since
- (4) surprised, about
- (5) took, before

50. The construction of the hall has been_____because of the_____of cement in the market.

- (1) hampered, shortage
- (2) prevented, supply
- (3) held, non-availability
- (4) completed, disappearance
- (5) denied, restrictions

ANSWERS

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---------|---------|
| 1. (2) | 2. (3) | 3. (4) | 4. (1) |
| 5. (5) | 6. (1) | 7. (2) | 8. (1) |
| 9. (3) | 10. (2) | 11. (2) | 12. (4) |
| 13. (3) | 14. (5) | 15. (3) | 16. (3) |
| 17. (2) | 18. (4) | 19. (5) | 20. (1) |
| 21. (1) | 22. (3) | 23. (3) | 24. (2) |
| 25. (4) | 26. E | 27. C | 28. D |
| 29. A | 30. B | | |
| 31. (5) No error | 32. (5) No error | | |
| 33. (4) 'to think ill of others' | | | |
| 34. (2) 'now speaks English' | | | |
| 35. (1) 'I had to work' | | | |
| 36. (5) No error | | | |
| 37. (1) 'Well, I spent six or seven years'. | | | |
| 38. (4) 'to school the following day'. | | | |
| 39. (1 and 3) 'Hindi and Marathi are'—1 | | | |
| | 'which was once spoken'—3 | | |
| 40. (4) 'have not changed my opinion' | | | |
| 41. (5) | 42. (4) | 43. (3) | 44. (1) |
| 45. (2) | 46. (3) | 47. (5) | 48. (4) |
| 49. (2) | 50. (1) | | |

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SCANDALS

The Telecom Bungle

COMMUNICATIONS Minister Sukh Ram faced rough weather in Parliament with the Opposition alleging irregularities for basic telecom services and hankering for his resignation. He was charged with bending rules to favour a company in his home State, the Himachal Futuristic Communications Ltd (HFCL), the company which has stunned the industry with extraordinarily high bids for nine basic services circles. The belated introduction of a cap of three circles per firm allowed HFCL to choose the most lucrative circles without forfeiting the deposit in six other circles in which it was the highest bidder.

Parliamentary proceedings were stalled for almost the entire session with opposition members demanding a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) probe into the issue. But the government was in no mood to relent to the demand.

Meanwhile, the Supreme Court directed the government not to award basic telecom services contracts for the five circles for which tenders have been finalised till January 9. The court will hear vices contracts and selection of bidders

PARLIAMENT

Session ends in deadlock

THE winter session of Parliament ended on December 22 after witnessing unprecedented inactivity because of the impasse on the telecom scandal.

Both Houses passed three bills without any discussions. These were: the Appropriation Bill for the Railways, the Proclamation on the Full Participation and Equality of the People with Disabilities in the Asian and Pacific region, and the bill to confer on the President the power of the legislature of UP to make laws.

President's Rule Extended

THE government and the opposition co-operated briefly during the Parliament

Recent Economic News

India's External Debt rises to \$ 99 billion

India's external debt has increased by \$ 6.34 billion in the last financial year and is estimated to be \$ 99.04 billion at the end of March, 1995 according to figures published by the finance ministry in its status report on the country's external debt. India's external debt is fast becoming a cause of concern even though economists believe that it is not in danger of falling into a debt trap.

As a percentage of gross domestic product, India's external debt rose sharply from 28.5 per cent in 1989-90 to a peak of 41.1 per cent in 1991-92. But the ratio declined to 36.9 in 1993-94 and is 34.2 in 1994-95. This compares with Thailand and Malaysia but is lower than figures for Indonesia, Philippines, Turkey and several other countries.

India ranks third among developing countries in terms of absolute magnitude of debt. The report points out that India's external debt has decelerated in dollar terms from 10.5 per cent in 1990-91 to 2.2 per cent in 1993-94 and further to 0.9 per cent in 1994-95. But this excludes increase in debt due to exchange rate variation. A large part of the increase in debt measured in US dollars in 1994-95 is a result of the dollar depreciating against other major currencies of the world. The report says that about 88 per cent of the increase in debt was due to exchange rate fluctuations alone. Had the exchange rate of the dollar remained steady, India's debt would have been \$ 794 billion in 1994-95.

According to the status report on the country's external debt, some of the important features are:

- The share of concessional debt in total debt went up from 44.4 per cent (\$ 41.1 billion) at the end of March 1994 to 45.3 per cent (\$ 44.8 billion) at the end of March 1995.
- The share of commercial borrowings in total debt declined to 13.1 per cent in March 1995 over 13.3 per cent last year. But in absolute terms commercial borrowings increased from \$ 630 million to \$ 12.89 billion.
- NRI and foreign currency deposits increased to \$ 14.70 billion in 1995 over \$ 14.50 billion last year.
- The long term debt rose from \$ 89.07 billion in 1994 to \$ 94.78 billion in 1995. Much of this increase is due to exchange rate variation.
- Debt service ratio as a percentage of current account receipts (earnings from export of goods) which peaked at 35.3 per cent in 1990-91 fell to 26.6 per cent in 1994-95.

impasse to ratify the imposition of President's rule in UP and its continuance in J&K on December 15. A Constitutional crisis was averted as the President's rule was imposed in UP on October 18 and has to be ratified within two months.

The House passed another statutory resolution for extending President's rule in J&K beyond January 18.

Parliament's Cost to the nation

HOW much does each minute of Parliament cost? According to the latest estimates, it costs Rs 6700 per minute to hold Parliament. The cost has ballooned since 1951, when it cost just Rs 100 and in 1963 it was Rs 300. The figures are based on Budget figures.

The cost of question hour was Rs 6000 per hour or Rs 100 per minute in 1951.

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This rose to Rs 18000 per hour in 1963. In 18 years the cost rose to Rs 48000 per hour, or Rs 800 per minute in 1981. Now, it costs Rs 4.02 lakhs per hour which works out to Rs 6700 per minute. The expenditure per day of Parliament, according to budget estimates, is Rs 30.12 lakhs.

DISASTERS

Over 400 killed in fire-accident

OVER 400 people died in a fire which broke out on December 23 in Mandi Dabwali in Haryana. The tragedy occurred when the tent in a marriage hall where the annual day function of the DAV school was to be held, caught fire and collapsed. Surrounded by high walls with only one exit, the tent became a death trap for many who were either burnt or trampled to death in the stampede. The fire was sparked off by an electric short circuit and engulfed the entire area cutting off the main exit.

The government ordered ex-gratia payment of Rs 1 lakh to the kin of those killed and Rs 50,000 to the injured. An inquiry has been ordered into the incident. Chief Minister Bhajan Lal decided to introduce regulatory measures and to formulate by-laws for the marriage halls where large gatherings were held.

SECURITY

Arms-Drop in Purulia

IN an alarming breach of the nation's security, an unidentified aircraft roared over the villages of Deradi, Ganodi and Ghatanda in West Bengal's Purulia district and dropped huge crates of firearms, rocket launchers and grenades on December 19. Among the arms recovered were AK-47 rifles, pistols, rocket launchers and anti-tank grenades.

A few days later, on December 22, a Pakistan-bound Russian-made AN-26 aircraft was intercepted by the Indian Air Force and was made to force land at

Bombay. The crew confessed that the weapons were dropped by them.

Union Home Minister S B Chavan accused Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) for the incident but details of the gun running mission could only be known after investigations. The crew were taken to Calcutta for trial and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) started its investigations.

Following the arms dropping incident, the V K Jain Committee was appointed to probe loopholes in air security. It has favoured total computerisation of all information with the air traffic control and other agencies connected with civil aviation to meet the growing volume of air traffic. It also identified specific gaps in the present security arrangements and has recommended ways to plug them.

LAW

Supreme Court judgements in 1995

THE year 1995 will be remembered as the year of Public Interest Litigations

(PILs) as the Supreme Court started taking action on PILs touching core problems affecting the common people. Some of the important judgements during 1995 included Chief Election Commissioner T N Seshan's being brought at par with the other two election commissioners to make the Election Commission a multi-member body.

The Court also asked a trial court in Chandigarh to examine the FIR lodged against Director General of Police K P S Gill for allegedly outraging the modesty of an IAS officer Ms Rupan Deol Bajaj.

Film star and TADA accused, Sanjay Dutt was released by the Court after a long wait.

In another judgement, it came to the rescue of patients who suffered at the hands of negligent doctors by including the services rendered by them within the ambit of the Consumer Protection Act

SC Upholds Validity of Civilian Awards

THE Supreme Court upheld the constitutional validity of civilian awards

DELHI NOISIEST CITY...

Delhi is becoming one of the noisiest city in the World. While a noise level of 30 decibels is considered enough to disturb deep slumber, causing change in bio-rhythms, in Delhi even in the silence zones around hospitals and educational areas the noise levels are 50 decibels during the day and 40 decibels at night.

While the standard levels of noise in areas of heavy traffic is 65 decibels, the levels at some crossings generate upto 74.93 decibels at night and 72.52 at night. In commercial areas where the level should be 65, Connaught Place alone generates 70.03 during the day and 68.9 at night.

...BUT ALSO THE RICHEST

According to a study carried out by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Delhi has the highest per capita consumption expenditure, followed by Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. It observed that Delhi has Rs 9196 per capita consumption in 1995, followed by Punjab at Rs 5750 and J&K at Rs 5214. The per capita income in the country at 1980-81 prices has been estimated at Rs 2362.

Punjab had the highest per capita net State domestic product at constant prices in 1993-94 at Rs 4055 followed by Haryana Rs 3479 and Rajasthan Rs 1760. Figures for Delhi, HP and J&K were not available.

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but criticised the government for its failure to exercise restraint in granting *Padma Vibhushan*, *Padma Bhushan* and *Padma Shri* Awards. The judgement said that the guidelines for selection of recipients are wide and imprecise and amenable for abuse. It said that the national awards were not titles and if they used as such, the defaulter should forfeit the award.

The judgement said that no awards should be conferred except with the recommendation of the national committee and this should have the approval of the President and the Prime Minister of India. Further, the total number of awards in all categories should be restricted to 50.

SC Upholds Maharashtra CM's Election

THE Supreme Court upheld the election of Maharashtra Chief Minister Manohar Joshi to the assembly five years ago.

It, however, held Shiv Sena chief Bal Thackeray guilty of electoral practices for making derogatory speeches against Muslims and creating communal hatred. Thackeray's naming could result in his being disqualified for contesting elections for six years if the Election Commission were to recommend it.

The court declared Shiv Sena MLA Suryakant Venkatrao Mahadik's election from Bombay constituency as void. He had made a religious speech in a temple appealing for votes on grounds of religion.

The Supreme Court also held that the use of *Hindutva* during elections does not amount to using religious appeals. The judgement states that terms like *Hindu*, *Hindutva* and *Hinduism* were not confined to religion alone but included the content of Indian culture and heritage. The judgement comes as a shot in the arm of the BJP who can now freely use these terms.

CAUVERY WATER DISPUTE

THE long standing dispute between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu on shar-

Private money market mutual funds allowed

The RBI has allowed private sector mutual funds to set up Money Market Mutual Funds (MMMFs). Though the scheme was set up in April 1992, till recently only commercial banks and public financial institutions could set up MMMFs themselves or through their existing mutual fund subsidiaries. With private sector mutual funds participating, they are expected to become more attractive and provide greater liquidity in the market while having greater public participation in the secondary debt market.

ing of waters from the Cauvery river erupted once again. Karnataka refused to release 11 tmc ft of water as ordered by the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal on December 19 essentially required for paddy crops in Tamil Nadu, which then petitioned the Supreme Court. The Court directed the Prime Minister to resolve the issue and convene a meeting of the Chief Ministers of the two States. The two-day initiative on new year eve yielded nothing. The Prime Minister asked Karnataka to release six tmc ft of water. He also announced the constitution of an experts' group headed by Vice Chancellor of JNU and former member of the Planning Commission, Dr Y K Alagh, to assess the status of the crops in the two States.

In Karnataka, the all-party meeting held under the chairmanship of Chief Minister H D Deve Gowda decided to release six tmc of water to Tamil Nadu and stay away from the Tribunal proceedings till the formation of the National Water Policy. The State had to deploy forces to control the agitations. The situation remained peaceful except for one incident of arson.

INDIA-TAJIKISTAN RELATIONS

Visit of President Emomali Rakhmanov

DURING his visit to India from December 11, Tajikistan President Emomali Rakhmanov cautioned against external interference saying that it posed a threat

to peace and stability in the region. Besides Indo-Tajik relations, the situation in Afghanistan was discussed and developments in Tajikistan, which is being subjected to an onslaught by extremist forces.

The President, Dr S D Sharma, observed that the degree of outside interference was reaching dangerous levels in Afghanistan where fundamentalist forces were being trained by outsiders. Without naming the Pakistan supported Taliban militia, Dr Sharma appealed to all concerned to pull back from the brink and work for a peaceful settlement. He voiced support for UN efforts for a peaceful solution to Tajikistan's problem between Islamic opposition and the government.

Six agreements were signed during

CRR cut again

The RBI has further reduced the CRR from 14.5 to 14 per cent to ease the liquidity crunch. This measure will augment the resources of banks by Rs 2000 crore. However, certain bankers felt that the reduction was not sufficient and would not make a difference as the demand for credit was acute.

The reduction in the CRR was in line with the recommendations of the Narasimhan Committee report submitted in 1991 which called for progressive reduction in the CRR.

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the visit covering political consultations, expansion of trade ties and cooperation in the fields of health, environment, science and technology, culture, art and cinematography. More joint ventures are being planned.

INDIA-ARMENIA RELATIONS

Visit of President

Levon Ter-Petrosian

DURING the visit of Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosian, India and Armenia signed a Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation and two other agreements for cultural exchange and training in India of Armenian nationals in technical and economic spheres. The two countries agreed to have a tripartite trade and transit agreement with Iran as the third signatory. Armenia has a road link with Iran which in turn is linked to India through the port city of Bandar Abbas.

The Armenian President expressed his country's support for India's position on Kashmir and India's candidature for permanent membership of the United Nations Security Council.

LEGISLATION

Ban on sale of cigarettes to youth sought

A parliamentary committee has demanded early introduction of a comprehensive anti-tobacco legislation. Among the provisions demanded are a ban on sale of cigarettes to anyone below the age of 18 years and a provision to uphold the rights of non-smokers. It has also been emphasised that the legislation should provide for a ban on all forms of advertisements on tobacco and sponsoring of sporting events by cigarette companies.

Emphasising the role of media, the committee, headed by Mr Amal Dutta, a CPM member, wants to de-glamorise of

smoking in cinema and on TV. The anti-tobacco campaign of the government has not taken off because of conflicting interests within the government, the tobacco industry and the growers. In order to prevent the loss of income to farmers, the committee wants that the Tobacco Board should stop promoting tobacco within the country but that production could be directed to exports.

DEMOGRAPHY

Sharp rise in Muslim population

THE Muslim population has recorded a faster growth rate than all other major religions, registering a 32.76 per cent rise during 1981-1991. According to the report published by the Census Commissioner of India, 24 million people have been added to the Muslim population during the period, recording a growth rate 10 per cent more than that of the Hindu population. In 26 of the 30 States and Union Territories, the Muslim population was growing faster than any other religion.

The Muslim population went up from 10.88 per cent of the national population in 1981 to 11.67 per cent in 1991. The Hindu population declined from 83.09 to 82.41 per cent during the same period.

The growth rate of Muslims is the highest in Arunachal Pradesh with 135.01 per cent and lowest in Sikkim with 18.76 per cent. The decadal growth rate in Delhi was 84.65 per cent.

STATUS OF WOMEN

Eventful year for women

THE year 1995 turned out to be an eventful year for women.

The year witnessed one of the largest ever international meets at the fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing where over 30,000 participants brought women's issues at the centre stage of development.

The Indira Mahila Yojana (IMY) was launched to integrate various sectoral

programmes for women's welfare.

A major initiative has been taken with the drafting of the national policy on women. The draft calls for elimination of all forms of violence against women and time bound plans.

The National Women's Conference was reconstituted with Mrs Mohini Giri being appointed as its chairperson.

In child welfare, a major step was taken to expand the Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS). Adolescent girls were also brought under the ICDS by providing them health and nutritional care, functional literacy and vocational training.

A National Creche Fund was set up during the year with a corpus of Rs 20 crore to provide assistance to voluntary organisations for opening new creches.

The Mahila Samridhi Yojana (MSY) enabled 1.25 crore poor rural women to open their accounts.

AGRICULTURE

Good year for agriculture

WITH good monsoon for the eighth successive year, agriculture brightened up during 1995. Record foodgrain production of 191.10 million tonnes with a surplus of about 45 million tonnes opened gates to global export markets in underexploited areas of cereals.

The total exports of principal agricultural commodities rose to Rs 10,950.73 crore till October 1995 which showed a marginal increase. The share of cereals and rice increased.

The Small Farmers Agri-business Consortium (SFAC) began work in more districts to provide a linkage between farmers and industry. As many as 183 Krishi Vigyan Kendras were established and another 78 KVKs sanctioned to take technology to the farmers. A sum of Rs 1100 crore was allocated for watershed

CURRENT AFFAIRS

NATIONAL

development in rainfed areas. A special scheme got under way for the welfare of fishermen with a total outlay of Rs 42 crore in the eighth plan.

POVERTY

New poverty alleviation programme launched

THE Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme, envisaging an investment of Rs 6400 crore, was launched by Mr Narasimha Rao on November 18. The key components of the approach are empowering the community, strengthening urban local bodies and involvement of non-government organisations. The reach and effectiveness of existing sectoral programmes would be enhanced to have a bearing on the urban poor.

PLANNING AND ECONOMY

Strategy to build India's exports

UNION Minister of State P Chidambaram unveiled an export promotion strategy aimed at building India's current export base and to increase exports from the current target of \$ 31 billion to \$ 75 billion by the end of the century. India's share in world trade is 0.6 per cent at present.

According to the strategy, industry should concentrate on 15 most popular export items in the 15 largest markets. Of the total export earnings of \$ 26.2 billion, 15 items accounted for nearly \$ 20 billion, while the 15 destinations accounted for \$ 17 billion. If these products and markets were concentrated upon, exports from the country could improve.

JAIL CONDITIONS

Rajan Pillai enquiry

INMATES of the Tihar jail testified before the Leila Seth Commission inquir-

ing into the death of Rajan Pillai that he was maltreated. One of them alleged that Pillai was dragged to the superintendent's office with blood oozing out of his nostrils. In her deposition, Nina Pillai alleged that she gave Rs 2.5 lakh in bribes to police officials for permission to meet her husband and send food to him. She said her husband told her that she was being ill-treated in jail.

FINANCE AND BUSINESS

SEBI proposes measures to curb price rigging

IN order to control price rigging and to correct other deficiencies of the Indian stock exchanges, the SEBI has decided to impose a special margin of 25 per cent or more on purchases in addition to the regular margin. The seller would have pay a margin on undelivered quantities. This has been done to discourage short selling.

SEBI has also asked stock exchanges to impose circuit breakers and other market monitoring mechanisms from the second day of listing of a new scrip on the exchange.

TISCO among Top MNCs

TATA Iron and Steel Company (TISCO) figures among the 50 largest transnationals in developing countries, according to a list issued by UNCTAD.

TISCO is the only Indian company in the list, ranking 49th among transnationals from the developing world. Its total assets and sales in 1993 were \$ 1.9 billion and \$ 1.21 billion respectively. The largest transnational from a developing country was Comex of Mexico while Royal Dutch Shell was the largest developed country transnational.

Probe into Duplicate RIL Shares

THE government announced that a probe would be conducted by SEBI

and department of company affairs into the transactions of Reliance Industries (RIL) relating to issue of duplicate shares purchased by Unit Trust of India. Financial institutions, banks and insurance companies were instructed to verify their portfolios to be sure that they do not hold any switched shares or for which duplicate shares had been issued.

SBI Caps suspended

SEBI has suspended the registration of SBI-Caps, the merchant banking division of State Bank of India, for a period of three months from April 1, 1996. An inquiry had been initiated on SBI-Caps following the MS Shoes fiasco which had surfaced in March 1995. While lead managing the issue, the merchant banker had shown negligence and the company was allowed to get the rights issue amount even after the stipulated time of one month.

NUCLEAR BOMB

India under pressure on CTBT

ON December 15, reports were published in the US media that India was preparing for a second nuclear explosion. According to the *New York Times*, US spy satellites have recorded activity at the Pokhran test site in Rajasthan. Indian officials dismissed the report as highly speculative. Atomic Energy Commission chairman R Chidambaram described the report as "highly irresponsible".

Experts pointed out that the reports were a trap by US intelligence agencies aimed at weakening India's stand on the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). After the imposition of the NPT, the US is pushing for a CTBT but India wishes to keep its options open. The selective leak to the press by the US administration is seen as attempts to put pressure on India to fall in line on the CTBT.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL

PAKISTAN

Strike against "western secularism"

RELIGIOUS parties in Pakistan called for a general strike on December 30, 1995, against Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's policies of "western secularism". The strike was called by the multi-party Milli Yekjehati Council (MYC).

Ms Bhutto told Islamic leaders to stay out of politics and that the "Ulema" religious scholars should devote themselves to religious and moral teaching. She accused clerics of pursuing an agenda of political tyranny. She rejected accusations that her policy was un-Islamic.

Court martial of coup plotters

CCOURT Martial proceedings began against four army officials accused of plotting to overthrow Benazir Bhutto's government in September. At least 36 soldiers and army officers were arrested for allegedly plotting to replace her government with an Islamic regime. Charged with waging war against Pakistan, the punishment if convicted would be death. The accused have denied the charges claiming that the weapons they were stockpiling were meant for Islamic militants for use in Kashmir.

US accused of interference

PAKISTAN has accused the US State Department of interfering in its internal affairs when it issued a statement of concern over escalating violence in Karachi. US State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns had said on December 12, 1995, that Washington was concerned about the wave of political violence in Pakistan's largest city. More than 1700 people have died in Karachi violence, including two US consulate employees. The main opposition group, the Mohajir Quami Movement (MQM) has accused the security forces of killing the brother and nephew of its leader Altaf Hussain.

Worse atrocities than Kashmir

THE MQM said on January 2 that the atrocities taking place in Karachi were worse than those in Kashmir. The MQM statement is the first acknowledgement by any Pakistani political party that things have been worse in Karachi than in Kashmir.

The MQM, which is the main party representing about 20 million Mohajirs in Pakistan (Muslims who migrated to Pakistan after partition), has been battling against the Pakistani government for the alleged atrocities inflicted on the Mohajirs.

Islamic University hub of terrorist activities

ACCORDING to a government report, Pakistan's Islamic University has become the hub of terrorist activities and a direct security threat to the country. The report has been prepared by Pakistan's domestic intelligence agency, the Federal Investigation Agency. The report also says that 80 per cent of the staff and board members of the university are not from Pakistan and the country has no control over them. The university has been set up by Saudi funds and flourished under General Zia, who recruited Islamic mercenaries during the 1980s to fight Soviet troops in Afghanistan.

RUSSIA

Communists victorious in elections

THE Communist Party of the Russian Federation (CPRF) has emerged as the largest party after elections on December 17, 1995, to the Lower House of Parliament, the Duma. Preliminary results show that the Communists have received over 21 per cent of the vote, which means that the party will send the largest number of nominees to the Duma's 225 seats reserved for party lists. The CPRF has also cornered about one-third of the rest of the 225 seats which are for the directly elected single

district constituencies. The Communists who got 12 per cent of the vote in the 1993 elections, have thus made major gains.

The reason for the Communist success is believed to be the widespread dissatisfaction with Yeltsin regime's economic policies. Privatisation in Russia has meant the largest and quickest auction of State property in history. The resulting decline in industrial production and GDP, and the unprecedented increase in inflation and unemployment, have had a devastating effect on the Russian society. A highly stratified and divided class society has emerged. Income differentials have increased, to a level now described as dangerous for stability.

The Communist success is matched by losses of the Government party, Our Home in Russia, led by Prime Minister Chernomyrdin. It got about 9.8 per cent of the votes, while the other pro-reform party, Yabloko, scored about 7 per cent. Other pro-reform parties like Russia's Choice and Economic Freedom Party could not get even 5 per cent votes. The Liberal Democratic Party (LDPR) received about 11 per cent of the votes compared to 22 per cent it had got in 1993. The Congress of Russian Communities did not get even 5 per cent while the Women of Russia Party declined from 8 per cent to about 5 per cent.

The elections show crystallising of Russian politics. A strong party system is emerging. Of the 43 that fought the election, several of the single-issue parties will merge with the larger ones.

The stage is now set for the presidential elections to be held in June.

Reforms to continue: The Russian President, Boris Yeltsin, assured his countrymen that he would not allow the Communists, who won the most votes in the December 17 parliamentary elections, to turn the clock back and sabotage the reforms. He said this in a recorded new year message to the nation. He said he was counting on the Russian people to help him prevent an about-face in reforms. "The

CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL

Russian people are fed up with experimenting. At present Russia's situation is such that if it gets pushed backwards, trouble can happen", he said.

Kozyrev resigns: Russian Foreign Minister, Mr Kozyrev, resigned as an outcome of the Russian parliamentary elections. His resignation may be the first in a long line of other resignations that are likely to follow before the presidential elections. By dropping Kozyrev, President Yeltsin has sought to send the message of a 'get tougher foreign policy' with regard to the West and blunt the edge of attack from the communist-nationalist combine, of being too obsequious in toeing the agenda set by the West.

POLAND

New President

ALEKSANDER Kwasniewski was sworn in as Poland's President, having unseated former Solidarity leader Lech Walesa in the elections. His election was a blow to the political heirs of Solidarity, the first independent trade union in the former Soviet bloc. Kwasniewski, who has lied about his education, is under two investigations for supplying incomplete information about his holdings.

BOSNIA

Peace Accord Signed

AFTER nearly four years of fighting, a peace accord was signed by the Presidents of Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia in Paris on December 14, 1995. French President Jacques Chirac, US President Bill Clinton and leaders of Britain, Germany, Russia and Spain also signed the accord. Under the agreement, Bosnia will be divided into two equal parts, one for the Serbs and the other for the Muslim-Croat federation. The devastated divided capital of Sarajevo will be reunited under rule of the Muslim-led government.

Some 60,000 NATO Implementation Force (IFOR) troops have been committed

to enforce the plan to end the conflict that has left 200,000 people dead or missing and millions homeless. The operation, NATO's biggest since World War II, will use IFOR personnel to enforce agreements arrived at the US brokered talks at Dayton in November, 1995. The Dayton accord included a time-table for withdrawing forces from the frontline, the return of forces to the barracks, the establishment of institutions and elections.

Rebuilding Bosnia: The task now before Bosnia is to rebuild what has been destroyed in the four years of fighting. The World Bank has estimated that it will require about \$ 5 billion over three years to repair the ravages of war and revive Bosnia's shattered economy. There is further cost of resettling the country's 2.7 million refugees

A peace implementation conference was held in London to set up the machinery to coordinate assistance. But the US is unhappy to foot one third of the expenses. The Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe will oversee the arms control work and also prepare for elections. An international Peace Implementation Council, chaired by Carl Bildt, a former Prime Minister of Sweden, will make sure that the various peace makers do not get in each other's way.

(Also see under cover story)

SOUTH KOREA

Prime Minister sacked

PRESIDENT Kim Young-Sam sacked Prime Minister Lee Hong-Koo on December 15, 1995, in an effort to shore up popularity before the parliamentary elections to be held in April. Seoul National University President Lee Soo-Sung will fill up the vacancy, subject to parliamentary approval.

South Korea has been rocked by massive political scandals. Former President Roh Tae-Woo has been arrested and is facing trial on charges including corruption.

Danger from the North: The political turmoil has brought in fears that instability in South Korea could once again shake up the entire Korean peninsula. Military hawks in North Korea may try to take advantage of South Korea's turmoil. Armed forces have been put on alert to prevent any infiltrators from the North.

Crop damage during floods and lack of money for food imports have caused near famine in the North. According to the UN World Food Programme, malnutrition is advancing and hunger is visible even in the capital Pyongyang. The world has not responded with food aid and international observers agree that North Korea may become a threat to the South.

MIDDLE EAST

PLO takes over Nablus

PALESTINE flag was hoisted on Israeli military headquarters in Nablus on December 11, 1995, marking the end of 28 years of Israeli occupation of the West Bank town. Delighted Palestinians danced and burst fire crackers on the Israeli withdrawal.

GATT slips into history

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the global trade watchdog, slipped into history after five decades of pushing the world towards open markets. It was an enormous success, according to Renato Ruggerio, director general of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the organisation which was born out of the seventh and final trade round under GATT.

GATT, which was both an agreement and an organisation, formally disappeared and was absorbed by the WTO on December 31. Although it numbers 112 countries at present, the new body expects to have at least 155 members within a few years, representing 95 per cent of the world trade.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL

Israeli troops had withdrawn from Nablus a day ahead of schedule, fearing trouble. As per the terms of the Oslo package, the Israeli army has also left Bethlehem and will leave Ramallah by March, 1996.

Meanwhile, Shimon Peres was welcomed in Washington and US President Bill Clinton sent Secretary of State Warren Christopher to the Middle East to again revive Israeli-Syrian negotiations.

CHINA

The Panchen Lama mystery

FOR six years, China has tried to control Tibet, including the right to choose its top religious leaders. In May, the Dalai Lama announced that he had chosen the six-year old Dedhun Choekyi Nyima as the new Panchen Lama. China was enraged, and Nyima disappeared from his village along with his parents. The communist government declared that the Dalai Lama's choice was invalid and proceeded to select one of its own choice.

On December 8, 1995, hundreds of Buddhist monks gathered in Lhasa to select a new Panchen Lama. By placing markers in a golden urn and picking one, a new Panchen Lama was selected. This procedure had the approval of the Chinese. The six-year old Gyaincain Norbu thus became the 11th Panchen Lama, the second most exalted Tibetan spiritual leader.

But questions about Nyima's whereabouts remain. China denies having kidnapped the Dalai Lama's choice but questions remain. By selecting its own Panchen Lama, China hopes to control Tibet as well as the education of the Panchen Lama, who will lead the search for the Dalai Lama.

Wei Jensheng sentenced to 14 years

LEADING dissident Wei Jensheng was sentenced to 14 years in prison for al-

legedly trying to overthrow the Chinese government. Wei was charged with sedition even though he has been in prison for all but six months in the last 16 years. He was first sentenced to 15 years imprisonment in 1979 after he wrote the pamphlet *The Fifth Modernisation—Democracy*. The trial was held without evidence.

Western governments and human rights groups have condemned China's action and some Hong Kong residents said it had deepened their worries over the future. The conviction and sentence pronounced on the 1995 Nobel Peace Prize nominee, widely regarded as the father of China's modern democracy movement, spurred new criticism of China's human rights record. US, France, Britain and Germany led official condemnations. Amnesty International called the jailing as a mockery of justice.

France expressed dismay and urged Beijing to show leniency, while Britain said that Wei had been harshly treated. Germany has offered sanctuary and called for China to free Wei and give its people freedom of speech. Japan too reacted cautiously and asked China to improve its human rights record.

China, however, hit out at the US for its "unwarranted and vicious actions" in interfering with the internal affairs of the country and warned such actions could severely harm Sino-US relations.

Despite noises made by the Western world about China's abuse of human rights, China's leaders have learned that they have little to fear. From Wei's detention in April 1994, through his trial, not a single western government has threatened economic reprisals against his detention.

ASEAN MEET

THE fifth ASEAN summit was held in Bangkok, on December 14-15, 1995, and brought together 10 countries in the region for the first time. The seven members Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia,

Singapore, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam were joined by Burma, Cambodia and Laos this year.

At the end of the summit, the nations signed a treaty banning nuclear weapons from the region. The historic treaty, called the South East Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone (SEANWFZ) treaty, forbids the acquisition, development, use, testing and stationing of nuclear arms in their zone. A Bangkok declaration issued by the ASEAN urged nuclear powers Britain, China, France, Russia and the US to back the treaty and implement measures to reduce and eliminate nuclear weapons.

ASEAN leaders also endorsed the acceleration of trade liberalisation by reducing tariff barriers on nearly 40,000 products by 2003. It wants to reduce duties on thousands of products and set up an ASEAN free trade area (AFTA) by 2003.

FRANCE

Juppe Retreats to End Strikes

MORE than three weeks of strikes brought France to a standstill, threatening to choke its economy. Transport, postal and utilities employees struck work to protest the government's new social welfare norms. The government's primary aim was to reduce the huge budget deficit of 322 billion francs in order to enable France to join the European Union's single currency, planned for 1999. France must fulfil the Maastricht criteria, which includes a budget deficit that does not exceed 3 per cent of the GDP. In order to do this, the government wanted to cut down on "unnecessary" expenditure, such as on welfare, impose new taxes and a public sector wage freeze.

In a country with high social benefits, the proposed changes angered the people. The strikes started on November 24, 1995, with a one-day strike by civil servants. Workers of the national railroad struck work to protest against restructuring. They were joined by workers from other services.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL

After vowing to hold firm on social welfare norm, Prime Minister Alain Juppe was forced to make major concessions. He promised to leave rail workers' early retirement plan untouched and to postpone downsizing of the money losing national railroad company. Juppe announced increased allocations to universities and promised constitutional guarantees to protect public services and utilities from deregulation. On December 21, 1995 he met union leaders to discuss wages, work conditions and employment.

As a result of the government's climbdown, the strikes started ending even as 2 million people took to the streets throughout France. The strikers wanted complete withdrawal of Juppe's plan. However, by Christmas the metro trains were running and the most powerful trade union, the General Confederation of Labour, announced that a majority of railroad employees had suspended their strike. Transport, postal and telephone workers held out but the social unrest seemed to be ending.

UNITED STATES

Budget impasse ends

THE US government has been partially shut down as the President, Bill Clinton and the Republicans, who control Congress, were opposed to each other as to how to balance the budget.

On January 6, 1996 President Clinton bowed to Republicans demands and offered a new seven-year balanced budget plan. This ends the stalemate and will let the entire government emerge from its three-week shut-down.

Republicans criticised the President's budget proposal as containing too much spending but Democrats said it eliminated federal deficits with gentler reductions in important social programmes. The proposal represents a retreat for Clinton, who for months had refused to endorse a balanced-budget plan certified by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). Both sides were in agreement that the CBO had certified that the president's proposal would eliminate federal deficits by 2002.

The President's plan calls for restraining federal health care spending by only half as much as the Republicans want and also projects smaller savings from welfare programmes. And it would cut only \$ 87 billion in taxes, compared to \$ 241 billion in the Republican plan.

Meanwhile, the US Senate has restored jobs of 2,80,000 civil servants and reimbursed them for lost salaries.

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Current General Knowledge

ABBREVIATION

IFOR: (NATO) Implementation Force (for Bosnia)

ISTRAC: ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Centre

NAWO: National Alliance of Women

PAN: Panchromatic Camera

AWARDS

Gandhi Peace Prize

DR Julius Kambarage Nyerere, former President of Tanzania, has been selected for the first Gandhi Peace Prize for social, economic and political transformation through non-violence. The award is worth Rs 1 crore prize and is the biggest and most prestigious award of the country.

Borlaug Awards

For botanical research and promotion of science and biotechnology: Dr Manju Sharma and Mrs Sulochana Gadgil share the prize.

For outstanding contribution in breeding high yielding wheat varieties: Dr Sanjay Rajaram of CIMMYT, Mexico.

For contribution to high yielding basmati rice: Dr E A Siddiq, Deputy Director General (Crop Sciences) of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

For contribution to soil fertility and fertiliser use: Dr J C Katyal, Director of ICAR Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad.

Kalidas Samman

NOTED theatre personality Kavlam Narayan Panikkar has been selected for Kalidas Samman for 1995. The award has been instituted by the Madhya Pradesh government.

Saraswati Samman

MALAYALAM poetess N Balamani Amma has been selected for the Saraswati Samman for 1995. The award is conferred by the K K Birla Foundation and carries a cash prize of Rs 3 lakh and a citation.

Vyas Samman

NOTED Hindi writer Kunwar Narain has been awarded the Vyas Samman for 1995 for his compilation of poems entitled *Koi Doosra Nahin*. The award for 1994, which could not be given last year, was given to Dr Dharamvir Bharti for his work, *Sapna Abhi Bhi*. The award has been instituted by the K K Birla Foundation.

Sanjay Chopra Award

SUDHIR Sardana, a 13 year old boy from Bhiwani in Haryana, has been selected for the Sanjay Chopra Award for bravery. He had caught an armed assailant who shot his father with a pistol in July last year. The award is given by Indian Council for Child Welfare every year.

Lata Mangeshkar Award

POPULAR playback singer Talat Mehmood has been awarded the Lata Mangeshkar award instituted by the Madhya Pradesh government. The award comprises a cash prize of Rs 1 lakh and a citation and was received by Mr Mehmood's son, Khalid.

National Amity Award

ISLAMIC scholar Maulana Wahiduddin Khan has been awarded the National Amity Award. The award consists of a cash prize of Rs 1 lakh and a citation scroll.

Jesse Owens Award

SPRINTER Michael Johnson won the highest honour of US athletics, the Jesse Owens award, for the second consecutive year. Johnson won the 200 and 400 m at the US championships in Sacramento last summer and repeated the feat in the world championships held in Gothenburg.

BOOKS

Nivedyam (Offering)

WRITTEN by N Balamani Amma, who has been selected for the Saraswati Samman for 1995, it is an anthology of 132 poems that reflect three main areas of her life: the role of woman, the state of society and the upward urge of the human spirit.

DAYS

Vijay Diwas

DECEMBER 16 will be observed by the armed forces as Vijay Diwas or a day of remembrance of all those soldiers, sailors and airmen who laid down their lives in defence of the nation.

DEFENCE

All-women copter crew

FT Cadet Cheryl Dutta and Ft Cadet Simran Sodhi took off in Chetak helicopter for their maiden training sortie at Air Force Station, Secunderabad on December 7, 1995.

This was the first-ever all-women helicopter flight to take to the skies in subcontinent's aviation history, both military and civil.

The two Ft Cadets are part of the first batch of women helicopter pilots who received their wings after completion of one and a half years training.

A robot soldier for Indian Army!

A robot that writes letters, and another that plays table tennis, are being developed by defence scientists in Bangalore, who have also built India's first intelligent robot with stereo vision that can navigate by itself, avoiding obstacles, just like a real human being.

With further refinements, this robot may be useful in mine clearing and commando operations, and in civilian applications on shop floors as autonomous guided vehicle.

The robot has been developed at the Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (CAIR), one of the laboratories under the Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO).

Unlike the wire-guided robots that have been developed elsewhere, the CAIR robot is guided by light reflected from either side of its centre line. The robot is battery driven and two cameras, which act as "eyes", endow the device with binocular vision.

PERSONS

Amma, N Balamani

MALAYALAM poetess N Balamani Amma, who has been selected for the Saraswati Samman for 1995, is credited with being a singer of the resplendent womanhood. Her poems are connected with all aspects of the subjects connected with women, her role at home, in society and in various facets of life. Her poems on social themes cover nationalist struggle, human fraternity, Indian culture and reinterpretation of puranic myths in terms of contemporary awareness

Slack, Sally (Kamala)

BORN on December 20, 1945, Sally Slack, who is also known as Kamala, decided to devote herself to Gandhism and promote Gandhian values in the US. She has been awarded the Jannalal Bajaj award. At present she is the president of the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Foundation and director of Gandhi Memorial Centre in Washington.

PLACES

Singapore: S.E. Asia's first developed economy

SINGAPORE takes a giant leap into the world's major league when it graduates to the status of South-East Asia's first developed economy by any yardstick, a tremendous achievement for a nation that won full independence only 30 years ago.

Five other nations also move into that grade: Brunei and the Gulf nations of Kuwait, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, apart from the Bahamas.

The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) took the decision to promote Singapore to that status on the basis of its huge income levels—per capita income has crossed \$ 23,000.

SPACE

IRS-1C launched

THE world's most advanced remote sensing satellite, IRS-1C, built by Indian Scientists, was put into orbit successfully by a Russian rocket on December 28, 1995. It will help India grab a sizeable chunk of the multi-billion dollar world market for satellite data.

The key equipment on board is the panchromatic camera (PAN), which will provide pictures of the earth with a resolution of 6 metres, the highest available in the world market today. Such high resolution would help in improving the accuracy of maps of the earth.

Besides the panchromatic camera, IRS-1C carries two other sensors to provide visual imageries in a wide band of spectra. These are the Linear Imaging Self-scanning Sensor (LISS-3) and the Wide Field sensors (WIFS).

While the data receiving station of the National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA), at Shadnagar near Hyderabad, will distribute the satellite data to the users, the ground stations of the US company Eosat will also receive IRS-1C data under a commercial agreement between Eosat and the Antrix Corporation of the Indian Depart-

ment of Space.

INSAT-2C launched

INDIA'S third indigenous satellite, INSAT-2C, was launched from South American sea port of Kourou, by the European rocket vehicle Ariane.

INSAT-2C joins the three other ISRO satellites, INSAT-1D, INSAT-2A and INSAT-2B, which are currently providing television and telecommunications and weather services to India.

Improved telecommunications, wider television coverage, introduction of mobile satellite service and business networking in major Indian cities will become possible with this satellite. In a departure from the past, INSAT-2C is not carrying a meteorological transponder to relay weather data.

There are several firsts to the credit of INSAT-2C. It is the first Indian satellite to be co-located with another Indian spacecraft, INSAT-2B, in the same geo-stationary orbit, separated only by a minimum distance of 17 km in space. It carries India's first KU band transponders exclusively for telecommunications.

It will introduce Mobile Satellite Services (MSS) that will enable communications between any two moving persons on land, sea or in air.

Galileo takes a shot at Jupiter

ON December 8, 1995, spacecraft Galileo reached Jupiter after six years and a 3.7 billion km journey. This signalled a new era of space exploration.

Galileo's close encounter with the largest planet is the culmination of a nearly 20-year programme, aimed at learning about the gigantic Jovian system, which could reveal important clues about evolution of the solar system.

The craft, named after the Italian astronomer who discovered Jupiter's four largest moons in 1610, will make at least 11 orbits of Jupiter, including close encounters with three of its 16 moons—Ganymede, Callisto and Europa—and observe erupting volcanoes on the fourth large moon, Io.

By the time it ends 16 separate scien-

tific experiments, runs out of fuel and eventually burns up around December 1997, the cost of the mission will have totalled \$ 1.35 billion.

Scientists hope Galileo will help answer Jovian phenomena. But the bounty of scientific information will be much more modest than originally envisioned. With its main antenna out of order, Galileo must use a slower backup that can send data at the agonisingly slow speed of only 40 bits per second—thousands of times slower than a typical fax machine.

Because of that, controllers scaled back the mission. Only 1,500 images of Jupiter and its moons will be returned instead of the original 50,000. The first pictures are expected in July, 1996.

MISCELLANEOUS

New Year a second late

THE last minute of this year was a second longer, as the world's clocks were

slowed down in tune with the earth's rotation. "Leap seconds" are added periodically to synchronise the cesium atomic clocks, which are known for high accuracy, with the earth's rotation.

Such correction is crucial for ships and aircraft that depend heavily on satellite and radio signals for communication. An error of even a millionth second could lead to logistic problems of misjudging the location of the signal.

As per the convention of the Paris-based International Earth Rotation Service, the introduction of leap seconds can take place only on two days in a year, June 30 and December 31.

World's largest museum

TAIWAN opened the world's largest museum dedicated to the Guinness Book of World Records featuring more than 100 indoor and outdoor displays.

The 2-hectare museum in Taichung, central Taiwan, is five times the size of Guinness's museum in London and expects more than one million visitors a year.

TeleMedicine is here

TELEMEDICINE was originally developed for the Apollo Space Mission to transmit astronauts' medical status. This technology is now affordable and available through Apollo Hospitals through the launch of HEARTLINE.

TeleMedicine can provide instant medical help in emergencies. It provides Heart-facts on a phone line, and monitor ECG on a regular basis. A pocket-size transmitter is connected to your chest and the Apollo Heart Command, through telephone. The ECG is transmitted to the hospital, where an expert reads the ECG and can tell you his opinion, all in only 2 minutes.

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SPORTS

GAMES

Seventh South Asian Federation Games

THE South Asian Federation (SAF) Games were declared open by Prime Minister Narasimha Rao at the Jawaharlal Stadium in Madras on December 18, 1995. The teams were led by the mascot 'Leo' and India's P T Usha, who was also captain of India's contingent. She also took oath on behalf of the 1300 athletes who were participating. India won 106 gold medals out of 143, making it an Indian show. Sri Lanka with 16 golds, was only a distant second. Susanthika Jayasinghe and Shiny Abraham were jointly declared the best athletes of the games.

Highlights

Tennis: Mahesh Bhupathi and Prahlad Srinath set up a gold medal clash and India won the gold medal in the SAF games. Pakistan claimed the silver medal.

Athletics: Shiny Wilson broke the two minute barrier in the 800 m run by finishing the race in 1 minute 59.85 seconds.

Hockey: India won the hockey gold beating Pakistan 5-2.

Soccer: India regained the football gold medal after 8 years defeating strong contenders Bangladesh by a solitary goal.

Medals tally

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
India	106	60	19
Sri Lanka	16	25	53
Pakistan	10	33	36
Bangladesh	7	17	35
Nepal	4	8	16
Bhutan	0	0	2
Maldives	0	0	1

ATHLETICS

34th Inter-State Athletics Meet

ANANDA Natarajan broke the 200 m record in the Inter-State Athletics Meet held in

Madras.

Neelam Jaswant Singh became the first Indian to cross the 50 metres in discus throw, scoring 50.70 m. Swaranjit Kaur came second with 49.60 m.

Orissa's Sushma Behera and Olympian Shiny Wilson created new national records in javelin throw and 400 m.

CHESS

Kasparov beats computer

GARRY Kasparov won the deciding match against a computer in London on December 14, 1995 proving that humans were better than machines. The computer had a pentium chip manufactured by Intel and can analyse 10 million chess positions a minute. It had won the first match in London in August 1994 but Kasparov won the second match played in Cologne. By winning the third match also, he had a victory of 2-1 against the computer.

CRICKET

Interface Cup

INDIA won the four-nation Interface Cup cricket tournament held at Sharjah beating Pakistan by seven wickets.

Challenger Trophy

INDIA Seniors, led by Md Azharuddin, beat India 'A' led by Sachin Tendulkar by 33 runs to retain the Challenger trophy in the limited overs cricket match played at Hyderabad.

GOLF

Northern India Ladies Title

PARNITA Grewal, the 15-year old school girl from Chandigarh, won the North India Ladies Title and the British Aerospace Junior Girls Northern India Championship held in New Delhi.

HOCKEY

Shivaji Hockey Title

BORDER Security Force (BSF) beat Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) 4-2 to win the Shivaji Hockey Gold Cup held in New Delhi.

Dhyan Chand Cup

BORDER Security Force (BSF) won the tie-breaker against CRPF 4-2 to lift the Dhyan Chand Cup for the second Chatrapati Shivaji hockey tournament held at New Delhi.

SQUASH

42nd National Inter-State Squash Championship

MANISH Choithrani of Maharashtra helped his team perform a hat-trick by beating Services A in the 42nd National Inter-State Squash Championship held at New Delhi.

TENNIS

Davis Cup

PETE Sampras led the US team to the Davis Cup title. USA defeated Russia in the finals held in Moscow.

National Grasscourt Tennis Championship

NIRUPAMA Vaidyanathan won the women's singles title for the fourth time in a row in the National Grasscourt Tennis championship held at New Delhi, beating Manisha Malhotra.

Mahesh Bhupathi won the men's final, beating Srinath.

VOLLEYBALL

World Cup Men's Volleyball Title

TWO-time world champions Italy defeated USA to win the World Cup Volleyball Title held in Tokyo. Italy secured a place for the Atlanta Olympics, scoring their tenth straight win in the 12-team round-robin tournament.

Question Box

Q. What are the names of the participating countries for the 1996 World Cup cricket?

—S.K. Moharana, Ganjam (Orissa)

A. The participating countries for the 1996 World Cup are:

Group A: West Indies, Australia, India, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe, Kenya.

Group B: Pakistan, South Africa, England, New Zealand, UAE, Holland.

The finals will be held in Lahore on March 17, 1996.

Q. How should I prepare for the IAS?

—Ujjwala Singh, Varanasi

A. The IAS examination is the most keenly contested. Preparations should start early, and several books and courses are available. The Competition Master publishes regular features and solved papers which should help you. For detailed guidance, check out our career feature of Feb '95 issue.

Q. Does a fan consume more power when operated at high speed?

—Shikha, Bhubaneswar

A. The amount of energy used by a fan depends on the regulator. In old regulators, resistors are used to reduce the current. They do not consume less power if the fan is operated at slow speed. Modern regulators, however, actually reduce the current intake. The amount of power used will be directly proportional to the speed of the fan, if these regulators are used.

Q. I want to set up a typewriting institute. How can I do so?

—N. Siva, Tirupattur, Tamil Nadu

A. You need a good space and some typewriting machines to set up an institute. You must advertise in your city so that people get to know of the institute. However, you may like to start a computer data entry course also in Tamil and English as typewriters are slowly giving

way to computers and you can help people better by doing so.

Q. What is the meaning of chess? How did it originate?

—Anurag Kumar, Buxar (Bihar)

A. Chess is derived from Chaturanga, an Indian war game that dates before the 6th century. The earliest known reference to it is in a 6th century Persian document. But the game may actually be older. The English name comes from the Persian title *Shah*, meaning 'King'. In China it is known as Xiang-qi and in Japan it is called Shogi.

Q. What is a microprocessor?

—S.S. Dutta, Osmanabad (Maharashtra)

A. A microprocessor is a miniature electronic device that contains the arithmetic, logic and control circuitry necessary to perform the functions of a digital computer's central processing unit. It can interpret and execute program instructions as well as handle arithmetic operations. The microprocessor was developed in the late 1970s as a result of Large Scale Integration (LSI), which made it possible to pack thousands of transistors, diodes and resistors on a tiny silicon chip less than 5 mm square. During the 1980s, Very Large Scale Integration (VLSI) vastly increased the circuit density of microprocessors.

Q. What do the words *et al* and *vis-a-vis* mean?

—Malini Srivastava, Allahabad

A. *Et al*: and others.

***Vis-a-vis*: face to face with; together; in relation to.**

Q. I am interested in some addresses of voluntary associations working for socio-economic development programmes. Can you please let me know from where I can get them?

—Chandrabati Swain, Rajnagar (Orissa)

A. You can get the required addresses from CAPART in New Delhi. A

directory of voluntary organisations is also published by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). For voluntary organisations in Delhi, refer to "The Green Book" published by Kalpavriksha.

Q. What is the origin of the AIDS virus?

—Swarup K. Mohanty, Bhubaneswar.

A. The causative agent of AIDS is the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV-1). It has been suggested that the precursor to the HIV-1 virus was present in a relatively benign state in Africa for a long time and that it mutated into the more virulent form. The exact origin of AIDS is a matter of speculation; it is also suggested that the virus existed in monkeys and somewhere along the line transformed into a human virus.

Q. I would like to do a course in Human Resource Development. Which are the institutions for it?

—S.K. Verma, Sitamarhi, (Bihar)

A. You can do a course on Personnel Management from XLRI or TISS. However, many universities offer the Master of Personnel Management (MPM) course while MBA with specialisation in HRD is also available.

Q. What is the difference between offset printing and letterpress printing?

—Rajeev Kumar Sinha, Bhagalpur (Bihar)

A. In letterpress, a block is made and the impression is transferred when it presses the paper. Offset printing is done by plates and a blanket transfers the image on paper. Offset printing is much faster and is preferred for large jobs.

Q. Why are we advised not to look at the solar eclipse directly?

—Subrata Sarkar, Babughat (West Bengal)

A. During the solar eclipse, the sun is blanked out but whatever is visible gives off intense light. The eye adjusts

to the dark disk and the intense light from the edges may damage the retina. However, it is impossible to look at the sun for large intervals and the eye will close involuntarily. Thus the chance of eye damage is considerably small.

Q. What are Nazca drawings?

—Jyotirranjan Biswal, Durgapur (Orissa)

A Nazca culture existed on the southern coast of present day Peru during the Early Intermediate Period (200 BC-600 AD). Nazca art is found on pottery, some modelled effigies and other designs.

Q. What is the 'Solar constant'?

—Salini S, Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala)

A The solar constant is the total radiation energy received from the sun per unit of time per unit of area on a theoretical surface perpendicular to the sun's rays and at the Earth's mean distance from the Sun. The value of the constant is about 2 calories per minute per square centimetre, or about 1.8 horsepower per square metre.

Q. Who built the Sun Temple at Konark?

—Biswanath Mandal, Gunipur (WB)

A The Sun Temple of Konarak was built by Narasimhadeva (1238-64).

Q. What is the name of the satellite that discovered the ozone hole?

—Indu Bhushan Paul, Hooghly (WB)

A The ozone layer depletion was discovered through studies undertaken by scientists during the 1970s which revealed that CFCs revealed into the atmosphere accumulated in the stratosphere where they would deplete the ozone. It was not discovered by a satellite.

Q. Who is the author of the book "Jurassic Park"?

—Sankha Chatterjee, Kandi (WB)

A Michael Crichton

Q. What is the meaning of 'PMPO' mentioned on music systems?

—Pitambar Satpathy, Rourkela

A The Peak Music Power Output (PMPO) is the maximum music output of the system.

Q. I would like to know whether women candidates can appear for the Indian Forest Service examination.

—Parul Rana, Karnal

A There is no restriction on women candidates to appear in IFS exam.

Q. What is the meaning of Zee TV and who is its owner?

—Ravi Shankar Patna

A Zee TV is the name of the TV channel owned by Subhash Chandra.

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Quantitative Aptitude

N.D.A. Exam held in April 1995

1 If $a + b = 2\sqrt{3}$, $ab = 3$, then the value of $a^4 + b^4$ is
(a) 14 (b) 16 (c) 18 (d) 20

2 The HCF of two numbers A and B is C. If B is equal to the product of C and D, then the LCM of A and B is
(a) AD (b) BD (c) AB (d) CD

3 If $x > 1$ then the value of the expression $\frac{x-1}{2x-1} + \frac{x}{x-1}$ is
(a) -1 (b) 0 (c) 1 (d) x

4 The value of the expression $(2q - 3p)(4q + p) - q(8q - 10p)$

is non-positive for

- (a) all p and all q
- (b) all $p > 0$ and all $q \geq 0$
- (c) all $p \geq 0$ and all $q < 0$
- (d) all q and all $p < 0$

5 Consider the following statements

1 $x + 2$ is a factor of $f(x) = x^2 - x - 6$

2 $f(2) = 0$

Of these statements

- (a) 1 is true but 2 is false
- (b) 2 is true but 1 is false
- (c) both 1 and 2 are false
- (d) both 1 and 2 are true

6 If $x^3 + 5x^2 - 3x + 2$ is divided by $x - 3$ then the remainder is

- (a) 65 (b) 55 (c) 45 (d) 2

7 If $p(x)$ and $q(x)$ are any two polynomials and $h(x)$ and $l(x)$ are respectively their HCF and LCM, then

- (a) $h(x)q(x) = l(x)p(x)$
- (b) $p(x)h(x) = q(x)l(x)$
- (c) $h(x) = p(x)q(x)$
- (d) $p(x)q(x) = h(x)l(x)$

8 HCF of the expressions $x^2 - x - 2$, $x^2 - 1$, $x^2 - 4$ and $x^2 - 3x + 2$ is

- (a) 0 (b) $x - 1$ (c) $x + 1$ (d) 1

9 If $a + b + c = 0$, then $a^3 + b^3 + c^3$ equals

- (a) abc (b) $2abc$ (c) $3abc$ (d) $4abc$

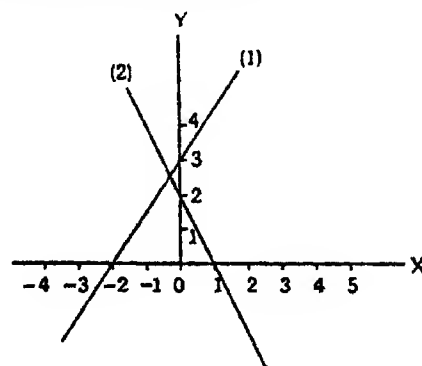
10 If $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 19$ and $ab + bc + ca = 15$, then one of the values of $a + b + c$ lies between

- (a) -5 and 0 (b) 0 and 10
- (c) 10 and 20 (d) 20 and 30

11 The system of equations $2x + ky + 5 = 0$ and $x - 3y + 9 = 0$ has a unique solution when

- (a) $k \neq 6$ (b) $k = 6$
- (c) $k \neq -6$ (d) $k = -6$

12 The solution of the system of equations represented by the graph given below, is



- (a) $x = -2, y = 2$ (b) $x = -\frac{2}{3}, y = 2$
- (c) $x = -\frac{3}{5}, y = \frac{5}{2}$ (d) $x = -\frac{2}{7}, y = \frac{18}{7}$

13 The sides of a right-angled triangular field containing the right angle are x m and $(x + 20)$ m. Its area is 44000 m^2 . The equation to determine x is

- (a) $x(x + 20) = 44000$ (b) $x(x + 20) = 22000$
- (c) $x(x + 20) = 88000$ (d) $x(x + 20) = \sqrt{44000}$

14 15 years hence a man will be just 4 times as old as he was 15 years ago. His present age is

- (a) 25 years (b) 20 years
- (c) 15 years (d) 10 years

15 The system of linear equations $x = 3y + 5$ and $9y - 3x - 15 = 0$ is

- (a) consistent (b) inconsistent
- (c) consistent but dependent
- (d) inconsistent but dependent

16 The length and breadth of a rectangular plot are in the ratio 7 : 5. If the length is reduced by 5 meters and the breadth is increased by 2 meters, then the area is reduced by 65 m^2 . The length and breadth of the plot are

- (a) 25, 35 (b) 21, 15
- (c) 35, 25 (d) 49, 35

17 If one root of $x^2 - 4x + k = 0$ is 6, then the value of k is

- (a) 12 (b) 2 (c) -2 (d) -12

18. The roots of the equation

$$x^2 - 2(5 + 2m)x + 3(7 + 10m) = 0$$

are equal when:

- (a) $m - 2$ or $m = \frac{1}{2}$ (b) $m > 2$ and $m < \frac{1}{2}$
(c) $m < 0$ (d) $m > 2$

19. If the roots of the equation $2x^2 - 6x + 3 = 0$ are α and β , then the value of $\alpha - \beta$ is:

- (a) -3 (b) $\sqrt{3}$ (c) $\sqrt{6}$ (d) 3

20. $\frac{a^x(y-z)}{a^y(x-z)} + \left(\frac{a^y}{a^x}\right)^z$ is equal to:

- (a) a^{xyz} (b) $a^{xy+yz+zx}$
(c) $a^{xy/z}$ (d) 1

21. When $(a^m)^m + (a^m)^2 = 1$, then the value of m ($a \neq 0$) is:

- (a) -2 (b) -1 (c) $\frac{1}{2}$ (d) 2

22. If $3^{12} \times (2^x)^2 = 6^{12}$, then x equals:

- (a) -6 (b) $\sqrt{6}$
(c) 6 (d) 12

23. Let $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$, $B = \{4, 5, 6\}$. Then $A \cap B$ is:

- (a) $\{\phi\}$ (b) ϕ
(c) $\{0\}$ (d) $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

24. If $A = \{a/2 < a < 12, a \in \mathbb{N}\}$ and

$$B = \{b/b \in \mathbb{Z}, -3 < b < 8\}, \text{ then}$$

- (a) $A \cup B = \{x/-3 < x < 12, x \in \mathbb{Z}\}$
(b) $A \cap B = \{x/-3 < x < 12, x \in \mathbb{N}\}$
(c) $A \cup B = \{x/2 < x < 12, x \in \mathbb{Z}\}$
(d) $A \cap B = \{x/-3 < x < 8, x \in \mathbb{N}\}$

25. If $A = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 100\}$,

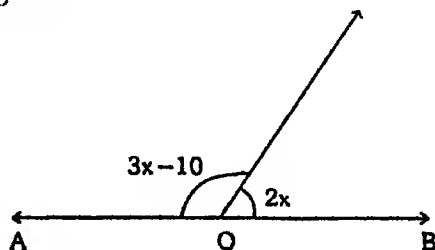
$$B = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 50\},$$

$$\text{and } C = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 1000\},$$

then $(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$ equals:

- (a) A (b) B (c) C (d) ϕ

26. The value of x which makes BOA a straight line in the given figure is:



- (a) 60° (b) 50° (c) 48° (d) 38°

27. If a clock is started at noon, then the angle turned by hour hand at 3.45 p.m. will be:

- (a) $67\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ (b) $97\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ (c) $112\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ (d) $142\frac{1}{2}^\circ$

28. The number of pairs of parallel planes that a hexagonal prism possesses is:

- (a) 3 (b) 4 (c) 5 (d) 6

29. Area of a square is given to be A . If its sides are doubled, then the new area will be:

- (a) $\frac{A}{2}$ (b) $2A$ (c) $4A$ (d) A^2

30. Let the sides of a quadrilateral be produced in a certain order. Then the sum of the exterior angles thus formed will be equal to:

- (a) π (b) 2π (c) 3π (d) 4π

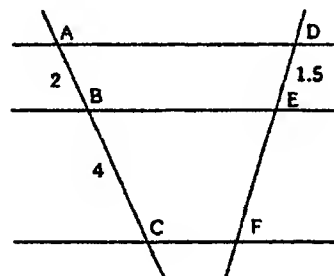
31. If one straight line meets another straight line, then the sum of the two adjacent angles on one side of it is equal to:

- (a) one right-angle (b) two right-angles
(c) three right-angles (d) four right-angles

32. Let $A(0, -2)$, $B(3, 1)$, $C(0, 4)$ and $D(-3, 1)$ be a set of given points, then:

- (a) $AB \parallel BC$ or $AB \perp BC$
(b) $AB \parallel CD$ and $AB \perp AD$
(c) $AD \parallel BC$ and $CD \perp AD$
(d) $AB \parallel CD$ or $AB \perp CD$

33. Three parallel lines are cut by two transversals as shown in the given figure. If $AB = 2$ cm, $BC = 4$ cm, and $DE = 1.5$ cm, then the length of EF is:



- (a) 2 cm (b) 3 cm (c) 3.5 cm (d) 4 cm

34. If the circumcentre of ΔABC lies on BC , then:

- (a) $\angle A = 45^\circ$ (b) $\angle A = \angle B$
(c) $\angle A = \angle C$ (d) $\angle A = 90^\circ$

35. AD , an internal bisector of $\angle A$ in ΔABC , meets the side BC in D . If $AB = 10$ cm, $AC = 6$ cm and $BD = 5$ cm, then the length of DC is:

- (a) 3 cm (b) 4 cm (c) 5 cm (d) 6 cm

36. If the exterior angles of a triangle are in the ratio $2 : 3 : 4$, then these angles are:

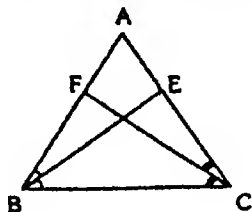
- (a) $40^\circ, 60^\circ, 80^\circ$
(b) $80^\circ, 120^\circ, 160^\circ$
(c) $20^\circ, 30^\circ, 40^\circ$
(d) of none of the above values

37. ΔPQR is right-angled at Q , $PR = 5$ and $QR = 4$. If the lengths of sides of ΔABC are $3, 4$ and 5 respectively, then:

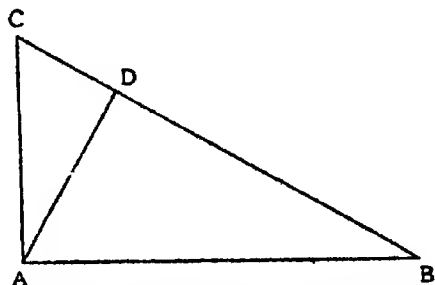
- (a) area of ΔPQR is double that of ΔABC

- (b) area of $\triangle ABC$ is double that of $\triangle PQR$
 (c) $\triangle PQR$ is congruent to $\triangle ABC$
 (d) $\angle B = \frac{1}{2} \angle Q$

38. In the given figure, if $AB = AC$ and BE and CF are the bisectors of $\angle B$ and $\angle C$ respectively, then:



- (a) $\triangle EBC \cong \triangle AFC$ (b) $\triangle AFC \cong \triangle CEB$
 (c) $\triangle EBC \cong \triangle FCB$
 (d) none of the above would be true
39. If the areas of two similar triangles are 4 cm^2 and 9 cm^2 respectively, then their heights will be in the ratio of:
 (a) 4 : 9 (b) 9 : 4 (c) 2 : 3 (d) 3 : 2
40. $\triangle ABC$ shown in the given figure is right-angled at A. AD is drawn perpendicular to BC meeting it in D . Then:



- (a) the $\triangle s$ ABD and CAD are not equiangular
 (b) the $\triangle s$ ADB, CAD and CAB are similar
 (c) the $\triangle s$ ADB, CAD and CAB are proportional
 (d) none of the above is true
41. If $AH = 'a'$ is a median and 'p' is the centroid of triangle ABC, then AP is equal to:
 (a) $\frac{a}{2}$ (b) $\frac{a}{3}$ (c) $\frac{2}{3}a$ (d) $\frac{a}{4}$
42. If the perpendiculars drawn from the vertices of a triangle to the opposite sides are each 6 cm in length, then the area of the triangle is:
 (a) $3\sqrt{3} \text{ cm}^2$ (b) $6\sqrt{3} \text{ cm}^2$
 (c) $12\sqrt{3} \text{ cm}^2$ (d) $18\sqrt{3} \text{ cm}^2$
43. If the medians of a triangle ABC intersect at G, then the area of $\triangle AGB$ equals:
 (a) $\frac{1}{3}$ area ($\triangle ABC$) (b) $\frac{2}{3}$ area ($\triangle CAB$)
 (c) area ($\triangle ABC$) (d) twice area of $\triangle ABC$
44. ABC is a right-angled triangle, right-angled at C and p is the length of the perpendicular from C on AB. If a, b, c are the sides of the triangle, then:

- (a) $\frac{1}{p^2} = \frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2}$ (b) $p^2 = a^2 + b^2$
 (c) $p^2 = a^2 - b^2$ (d) $\frac{1}{p^2} = \frac{1}{a^2 + b^2} + \frac{1}{a^2}$

45. In a parallelogram if one angle is double that of the other, then the measure of the smaller angle is:

- (a) 80° (b) 60° (c) 40° (d) 20°

46. The side of a rhombus whose diagonals are 16 cm and 12 cm in length, is:

- (a) 4 cm (b) 6 cm (c) 8 cm (d) 10 cm

47. The radius of a circle is r. The length of the tangent drawn to this circle from a point distant d from its centre is:

- (a) $\sqrt{r^2 + d^2}$ (b) $\sqrt{d^2 - r^2}$
 (c) $\sqrt{r^2 - d^2}$ (d) $\frac{r+d}{2}$

48. ABCD is a cyclic quadrilateral. The tangents to the circle drawn at A and C meet at P. If $\angle ABC = 105^\circ$, then $\angle APC$ is equal to:

- (a) 20° (b) 30° (c) 45° (d) 75°

49. A bicycle, whose wheels are of diameter d cm, is moving on a straight path on a horizontal plane. The locus of the centre of wheel is:

- (a) a line parallel to the path of the wheel at a height of d cm
 (b) a line parallel to the path of the wheel at a height of $\frac{d}{2}$ cm
 (c) a circle of radius $\frac{d}{2}$ cm
 (d) none of the above

50. If A and B are two distinct points, then the locus of P such that $\angle APB = 90^\circ$ is:

- (a) the perpendicular bisector of AB
 (b) a line parallel to AB
 (c) a circle with AB as diameter
 (d) a circle touching AB at its mid-point

51. If $\sin \theta = \cos \theta$ and $0 < \theta < 90^\circ$, then θ is equal to:
 (a) 90° (b) 60° (c) 45° (d) 30°

52. If $2 \sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 45^\circ = \tan 45^\circ$ and $0 \leq \theta \leq 90^\circ$, then $\tan \theta$ equals:

- (a) $\sqrt{3}$ (b) 1 (c) $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$ (d) ∞

53. If the angles of a triangle are in the ratio 1 : 1 : 2, then the cosines of the angles will be in the ratio of:

- (a) 1 : 1 : 0 (b) 1 : 1 : 2
 (c) 1 : 1 : $\sqrt{2}$ (d) 1 : 1 : 1

54. If $\sin \theta + \cos \theta = x$ and $\sin \theta \cdot \cos \theta = y$, then

- (a) $y = \frac{1-x^2}{2}$ (b) $x = \sqrt{1+2y}$

$$(c) y = \sqrt{1-2x} \quad (d) x = \frac{1-y^2}{2}$$

55. The value of:

$$\cos^2\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) - \cos^4\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right) + \sin^4\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right) + \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) \text{ is:}$$

$$(a) \frac{9}{16} \quad (b) \frac{7}{16} \quad (c) \frac{5}{16} \quad (d) \frac{3}{16}$$

56. If $x \tan 45^\circ \cos 60^\circ = \sin 60^\circ \cot 60^\circ$, then x equals:

$$(a) 1 \quad (b) \frac{1}{2} \quad (c) \sqrt{3} \quad (d) \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

57. If $\tan \theta = \frac{3}{4}$ and $0^\circ < \theta < 90^\circ$, then $\sin \theta \cos \theta$ equals:

$$(a) \frac{12}{25} \quad (b) \frac{3}{25} \quad (c) \frac{4}{25} \quad (d) \frac{7}{10}$$

58. If $\sec \theta = \frac{m+n}{2\sqrt{mn}}$, then $\sin \theta$ is:

$$(a) \frac{m-n}{m+n} \quad (b) \frac{m+n}{m-n} \quad (c) 1 \quad (d) \frac{m}{n}$$

59. If $\sec A + \tan A = 4$, then $\sin A$ equals:

$$(a) \frac{8}{15} \quad (b) \frac{15}{17} \quad (c) \frac{-8}{15} \quad (d) \frac{8}{17}$$

60. $(1 + \cot A - \operatorname{cosec} A)(1 + \tan A + \sec A)$ equals:

$$(a) 0 \quad (b) 1 \quad (c) 2 \quad (d) 3$$

61. $(1 - \sin^2 A) \tan^2 A$ equals:

$$(a) \tan^2 A \quad (b) \sec^2 A \\ (c) \cot^2 A \quad (d) \sin^2 A$$

62. The value of $\tan \theta$ can be expressed in terms of $\sin \theta$ as:

$$(a) \frac{\sin \theta}{1 - \sin^2 \theta} \quad (b) \frac{\sin \theta}{\sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \theta}}$$

$$(c) \frac{\sin \theta}{1 + \sin^2 \theta} \quad (d) \frac{\sin \theta}{1 - \sin \theta}$$

63. $\frac{\tan \theta}{\sec \theta - 1} + \frac{\tan \theta}{\sec \theta + 1}$ is equal to:

$$(a) 2 \operatorname{cosec} \theta \quad (b) 2 \sec \theta \\ (c) 2 \tan \theta \quad (d) 2 \cot \theta$$

64. If θ is in the first quadrant and $\cos \theta = \frac{3}{5}$, then the

value of $\frac{5 \tan \theta - 4 \operatorname{cosec} \theta}{5 \sec \theta - 4 \cot \theta}$ is:

$$(a) \frac{5}{34} \quad (b) \frac{5}{16} \quad (c) \frac{-5}{34} \quad (d) \frac{-5}{16}$$

65. $\frac{\cot A + \cot B}{\tan A + \tan B}$, ($\angle B \neq \angle A$), simplifies to:

$$(a) \frac{\tan A}{\tan B} \quad (b) \frac{\tan B}{\tan A} \quad (c) \frac{\tan B}{\cot A} \quad (d) \frac{\cot B}{\tan A}$$

66. From a point 100 meters above the ground, if the angles of depression of two points due south on the

ground are 60° and 45° , then the distance between the objects is:

$$(a) \frac{100}{3} (3 - \sqrt{3}) \text{ m} \quad (b) 100 (\sqrt{3} + 1) \text{ m}$$

$$(c) 100 (3 - \sqrt{3}) \text{ m} \quad (d) \text{ none of the above}$$

67. From the top of the tower which is 240 meters high, if the angle of depression of a point on the ground is 30° , then the distance of the point from the foot of the tower is:

$$(a) 40 \sqrt{3} \text{ m} \quad (b) 80 \sqrt{3} \text{ m} \\ (c) 120 \sqrt{3} \text{ m} \quad (d) 240 \sqrt{3} \text{ m}$$

68. The angle of elevation of a tower from a point on the ground is 30° . At a point on the horizontal line passing through the foot of the tower and 100 meters nearer it, the angle of elevation is found to be 60° . Then the height of the tower is:

$$(a) \frac{100\sqrt{3}}{3} \text{ m} \quad (b) 100\sqrt{3} \text{ m}$$

$$(c) \frac{50\sqrt{3}}{3} \text{ m} \quad (d) 50\sqrt{3} \text{ m}$$

69. A tree is $20\sqrt{3}$ meters high and its shadow on the level ground is 20 meters long. Then the angle of elevation of the sun is:

$$(a) 30^\circ \quad (b) 45^\circ \quad (c) 60^\circ \quad (d) 90^\circ$$

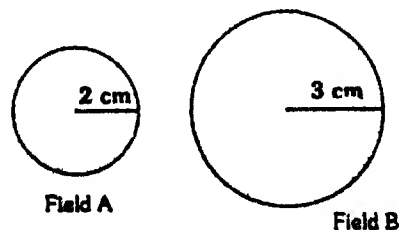
70. When the population is shown for each of the states in India, we have data which are classified:

$$(a) \text{ Chronologically} \quad (b) \text{ Geographically} \\ (c) \text{ Quantitatively} \quad (d) \text{ Qualitatively}$$

71. Primary data are preferred over secondary data because:

$$(a) \text{ they are concise and accurate} \\ (b) \text{ they contain no errors} \\ (c) \text{ they show greater details} \\ (d) \text{ they are easily available}$$

72. The following circular diagrams depict the yield of gram.



If the yield in field A is 400 kg, then the yield in field B is:

$$(a) 600 \text{ kg} \quad (b) 800 \text{ kg} \\ (c) 900 \text{ kg} \quad (d) 1200 \text{ kg}$$

73. The less-than ogive is a:

$$(a) \text{ U-shaped curve} \quad (b) \text{ J-shaped curve} \\ (c) \text{ S-shaped curve} \quad (d) \text{ bell-shaped curve}$$

74. The mean of first $2n$ natural numbers is:

$$(a) \frac{n+2}{2} \quad (b) \frac{2n+1}{2}$$

(c) $\frac{n+2}{4}$

(d) $\frac{2n+1}{4}$

75. In an examination the average score of ten students is 60. If the score of one student is omitted and the average score becomes 55, then the score of that student must have been:

- (a) 55 (b) 115 (c) 105 (d) 60

76. Which of the following statements are true?

1. $-\frac{6}{17} > -\frac{4}{9}$ 2. $\frac{14}{15} < \frac{17}{19}$
 3. $-\frac{11}{13} > -\frac{28}{39}$ 4. $\frac{7}{11} > \frac{6}{13}$

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1, 2 and 4 (b) 2 and 3
 (c) 1, 3 and 4 (d) 1 and 4

77. Consider the following statements

Assertion (A): $\sqrt{2}$ is an irrational number.

Reason (R): $\sqrt{2}$ cannot be written in the form $\frac{p}{q}$, where p and q are integers, q \neq 0 and have no other common factor except 1.

Of these statements:

- (a) both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
 (b) both A and R are true, but R is *not* a correct explanation of A
 (c) A is true, but R is false
 (d) A is false, but R is true

78. 0.4777..... is the recurring decimal for the fraction:

- (a) $\frac{4777}{100000}$ (b) $\frac{477}{100}$ (c) $\frac{437}{1000}$ (d) $\frac{43}{90}$

79. Which one of the following would hold true for an operation * on N, the set of positive integers defined by $m * n = m^n$?

- (a) Commutative law does not make sense
 (b) Commutative law holds only when $m = n$
 (c) Commutative law always holds
 (d) None of the above

80. If $\sqrt{60} + \sqrt{15} - \sqrt{135} = \sqrt{x}$, then the value of x is:

- (a) 0 (b) $\sqrt{15}$ (c) $2\sqrt{15}$ (d) $3\sqrt{15}$

81. A post has half of its length in mud, $\frac{1}{3}$ of its length in water and $3\frac{1}{3}$ m above the water. The whole length of the post is:

- (a) 15 m (b) 20 m (c) 25 m (d) 27 m

82. $\frac{5}{8} + \frac{1}{2} \times (\frac{5}{8} - \frac{6}{16})$ equals:

- (a) $\frac{3}{32}$ (b) $\frac{9}{32}$ (c) $\frac{9}{16}$ (d) $\frac{24}{32}$

83. A train of length 270 meters crosses a telegraph

post in 18 seconds. The speed of the train is:

- (a) 35 km/h (b) 41 km/h
 (c) 45 km/h (d) 54 km/h

84. A and B can separately do a piece of work in 20 and 30 days respectively. They work together for some time and then B stops. If A completes the rest of the work in 10 days, then B has worked for:

- (a) 6 days (b) 12 days
 (c) 16 days (d) 18 days

85. 'A' takes one hour to dig a pit of $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2}$ meters dimension, while 'B' takes one and a quarter hours. If workers work for 8 hours per day and 72 pits are required to be dug, then 'A' and 'B' together will complete the work in:

- (a) $4\frac{1}{2}$ days (b) 5 days
 (c) $5\frac{1}{2}$ days (d) 6 days

86. If the income of x is 20% less than that of y, then the income of y is greater than that of x by:

- (a) 20% (b) 25% (c) 30% (d) 35%

87. A man had Rs 2000. He lent a part of this at 5% interest and the rest at 4% interest. The total interest he received in one year was Rs 92. The money he lent at 5% interest was:

- (a) Rs 1050 (b) Rs 1100
 (c) Rs 1150 (d) Rs 1200

88. The amount of Rs 600 will earn Rs 300 as simple interest at the rate of 10% per annum in:

- (a) 4 years (b) 5 years
 (c) 6 years (d) 7 years

89. A person borrowed Rs 5500 from a money-lender at the rate of 24% per annum. He lent this amount to his friend at the rate of 36% per annum. After two years he collected the amount from his friend and paid back the amount due to the money-lender. The amount he thus earned is:

- (a) Rs 8140 (b) Rs 6820
 (c) Rs 3960 (d) Rs 1320

90. The current population of a town is 10,000. If the population increases by 10% every year, then the population of the town after three years will be:

- (a) 13,000 (b) 13,300 (c) 13,310 (d) 13,330

91. Six men earn as much as 8 women, 2 women earn as much as 3 boys and 4 boys earn as much as 5 girls. If a girl earns Rs 50 a day, then the earning of a man would be:

- (a) Rs 115 (b) Rs 125 (c) Rs 135 (d) Rs 150

92. The population of two cities A and C are 36,000 and 64,000 respectively. If the ratio of population of B to A is the same as the ratio of population of C to B, then the population of B is:

- (a) 50,000 (b) 48,000
 (c) 45,000 (d) 40,000

93. If the force required to stretch a spring varies

directly as the elongation, and if 16 kilograms stretches a certain spring by 4 cm, then the force required to stretch the spring by 5 cm is:

- (a) 18 kg (b) 18.5 kg
(c) 20 kg (d) 20.5 kg

94. Which of the following statements are true?

1. 1450210 is divisible by 3.
2. 11111112 is divisible by 6.
3. 300080 is divisible by 8.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

Codes:

- (a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 and 3
(c) 1 and 3 (d) 1, 2 and 3

95. The nearest integer to 8485 which is exactly divisible by 75, is:

- (a) 8475 (b) 8500
(c) 5525 (d) 8550

96. Mr Sharma bought some mangoes. On the first day his family ate one mango and $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the remaining mangoes. On the second day they ate 2 mangoes and $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the remaining mangoes. On the third and final day they ate the remaining 3 mangoes. The total number of mangoes Mr Sharma purchased was:

- (a) 9 (b) 13 (c) 17 (d) 21

97. A heap of coconuts is divided into groups of 2, 3 and 5, and each time one coconut is left over. The least number of coconuts in the heap is:

- (a) 31 (b) 41 (c) 51 (d) 61

98. H.C.F. and L.C.M. of two positive integers are 23 and 11339 respectively. If one of the integers is 391, then the other one must be:

- (a) 29 (b) 493 (c) 529 (d) 667

99. Given that $\log_{10} 2 = 0.3010$, the value of $\log_{10} 64$ is:

- (a) 32×0.3010 (b) $64 + 0.3010$
(c) $6 + 0.3010$ (d) 6×0.3010

100. $\log_{10} 10 + \log_{10} 10^2 + \dots + \log_{10} 10^n$ equals:

- (a) $n^2 + 1$ (b) $n^2 - 1$
(c) $\frac{(n^2 + n)}{2} \cdot \frac{n(n+1)}{3}$ (d) $\frac{n^2 + n}{2}$

101. If the perimeter of a square field is $4x + 8$, then its diagonal will be:

- (a) $x\sqrt{2} + 2$ (b) $2(x + \sqrt{2})$
(c) $(x + 2)\sqrt{2}$ (d) $(x + 2\sqrt{2})$

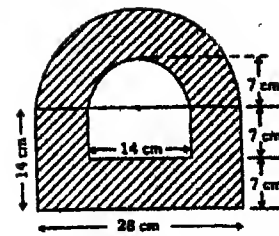
102. If the base of a parallelogram is $(x + 4)$, altitude to the base is $(x - 3)$ and the area is $(x^2 - 4)$, then the actual area is equal to:

- (a) 30 (b) 32 (c) 60 (d) 64

103. If the base of a triangle is 15 m and its height is 12 m, then the height of another triangle of twice the area, and a base of 20 m, is:

- (a) 9 m (b) 12 m (c) 4.5 m (d) 18 m

104. The area of the shaded region shown in the given figure is:



- (a) 515 cm^2 (b) 535 cm^2
(c) 505 cm^2 (d) 525 cm^2

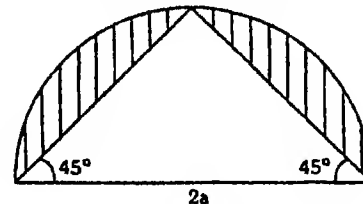
105. Starting with a square S_1 , the squares S_n , $n = 2, 3, \dots, N$ are constructed by joining the mid-points of the adjacent sides of S_{n-1} . If the side of S_1 is of length 'a', then the area of S_N (in square units), is:

- (a) $\frac{a^2}{2^{N-1}}$ (b) $\frac{a^2}{N}$
(c) $\frac{a^2}{2^N}$ (d) $\frac{a^2}{(\sqrt{2})^N}$

106. Two parallel sides of a trapezium measure 2 meters and 3 meters respectively. The perpendicular distance between them is 4 meters. The area of the trapezium is:

- (a) 24 m^2 (b) 20 m^2 (c) 12 m^2 (d) 10 m^2

107. The area of the shaded region in the given figure is:



- (a) $2a^2(\pi - 2)$ (b) $\frac{a^2}{2}(\pi - 2)$
(c) $a^2(\pi - 1)$ (d) $\frac{a^2}{2}(\pi - 1)$

108. In a four-sided field, the longer diagonal is 16 cm. The perpendiculars from the opposite vertices let fall upon the longer diagonal are 10 cm and 12 cm. The area of the field is:

- (a) 140 cm^2 (b) 352 cm^2
(c) 176 cm^2 (d) 280 cm^2

109. From a cube of 8 m side a square hole of side 2 m is punched right through between a pair of opposite faces. The volume of the remaining solid is:

- (a) 504 m^3 (b) 502 m^3 (c) 480 m^3 (d) 470 m^3

110. The areas of the 3 adjacent faces of a cuboid are 5 cm^2 , 8 cm^2 and 10 cm^2 . The volume of the cuboid is:

- (a) 20 cm^3 (b) 23 cm^3
(c) 25 cm^3 (d) 40 cm^3

111. Three equal cubes are placed side by side in a row. The ratio of surface area of the new cuboid so formed to the sum of the surface areas of the 3 cubes is:

- (a) 1 : 3 (b) 2 : 3 (c) 4 : 9 (d) 7 : 9

112 If the diagonal of a cube measures $\sqrt{243}$ cm then its surface area will be

- (a) 243 cm^2 (b) 486 cm^2
(c) 648 cm^2 (d) 324 cm^2

113 If the volume of a right pyramid standing on a square base of side 14 cm be 1568 cm^3 , then the height of the pyramid is

- (a) 16 cm (b) 24 cm (c) 32 cm (d) 8 cm

114 The total surface area of the cone of height 4 cm and radius 3 cm is (take $\pi = 3.14$)

- (a) 75.36 cm^2 (b) 65.94 cm^2
(c) 47.10 cm^2 (d) 121.06 cm^2

115 A right circular cone is cut half way through its axis and parallel to the base. The volumes of the two portions will be in the ratio of

- (a) 1 : 5 (b) 1 : 6 (c) 1 : 8 (d) 1 : 7

116 A metallic right circular cone of height 9 cm and base radius 7 cm is melted into a cuboid whose two sides are 11 cm and 6 cm. The other side of the cuboid is

- (a) 11 cm (b) 9 cm (c) 7 cm (d) 5 cm

117 The number of solid steel balls each of radius 2 cm that can be made by melting a sphere of radius 8 cm is

- (a) 4 (b) 16 (c) 32 (d) 64

118 The length of a cylinder is 8 cm and the radius of its base is 3.5 cm. The surface area of the whole cylinder is

- (a) 165.0 cm^2 (b) 126.5 cm^2
(c) 214.5 cm^2 (d) 253.0 cm^2

119 A sphere of radius r is inscribed in a cube. The volume enclosed between the cube and the sphere is

- (a) $(8 + \frac{4\pi}{3})r^3$ (b) $(8 - \frac{4\pi}{3})r^3$
(c) $(\frac{4\pi}{3} - 8)r^3$ (d) $(24 - 4\pi)r^3$

120 Two cylinders of same volume have their heights in the ratio 1 : 3. The ratio of their radii will be

- (a) $\sqrt{3} : 1$ (b) 3 : 1 (c) 1 : 3 (d) 1 : $\sqrt{3}$

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

- 1 (c) $a^4 + b^4 = (a^2 + b^2)^2 - 2a^2b^2$
 $= [(a+b)^2 - 2ab]^2 - 2(ab)^2$
 $= [(2\sqrt{3})^2 - 2 \times 3]^2 - 2(3)^2 = 18$
- 2 (a) Let $A = C \times E$, $B = C \times D$
 $\text{LCM of } A \text{ \& } B = C \times E \times D = A \times D$
 or $\text{LCM of } A \text{ \& } B = \frac{A \times B}{C} = \frac{A \times C \times D}{C} = A \times D$
- 3 (b) $x > 1$ $x - 1 > 0$ $\left| \frac{x-1}{x-1} \right| = x - 1$
 Given $\exp = \frac{x-1}{2x-1} - \frac{1}{x-1} = 0$
- 4 (a) $(2q-3p)(4q+p) - q(8q-10p) = -3p^2$ (on solving)
 which is non-positive for all p and all q

5 (d) $x^2 - x - 6 = (x-3)(x+2)$

$x+2$ is a factor of $f(x)$

$f(-2) = 0$ (By Factor Theorem)

6 (a) When $p(x) = x^3 + 5x^2 - 3x + 2$ is divided by $x-3$

$R = p(3) = 3^3 + 5(3)^2 - 3(3) + 2 = 65$

(By Remainder Theorem)

7 (d)

8 (d) $x^2 - x - 2 = (x-2)(x+1)$, $x^2 - 1 = (x-1)(x+1)$,

$x^2 - 4 = (x-2)(x+2)$, $x^2 - 3x + 2 = (x-1)(x-2)$

H.C.F. = 1

9 (c)

10 (b) $(a+b-c)^2 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 2(ab - bc - ca)$

$= 19 + 2 \times 15 = 49$

$a+b-c = \pm 7$ one value lies between 0 & 10

11 (c) For a unique sol $\frac{a_1}{a_2} \neq \frac{b_1}{b_2}$ i.e. $\frac{2}{1} \neq \frac{k}{-3}$ $k \neq -6$

12 (d) Eqn of I line $\frac{x}{-2} + \frac{y}{3} = 1$ or $-3x + 2y = 6$ (i)

Eqn of II line $\frac{x}{1} + \frac{y}{2} = 1$ or $2x + y = 2$ (ii)

On solving (i) & (ii) we get $x = \frac{-2}{7}$, $y = \frac{18}{7}$

13 (c) $\frac{1}{2} (xm) \times (x+20)m^2 = 44000m^2$ $x(x+20) = 88000$

14 (a) Let his present age be x years

ATS $x + 15 = 4(x - 15)$ $x = 25$

15 (c) $x - 3y = 5$, $3x - 4y = 15$, $\frac{a_1}{a_2} = \frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{b_1}{b_2} = \frac{-3}{-4} = \frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{c_1}{c_2} = \frac{5}{15} = \frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{a_1}{a_2} = \frac{b_1}{b_2} = \frac{c_1}{c_2}$

This system is consistent but dependent

16 (c) Let $L = 7x$, $B = 5x$ $A = 7x \times 5x = 35x^2$

ATS $(7x - 5)(5x + 2) = 35x^2 - 65$ $x = 5$

$L = 7x = 7 \times 5 = 35$ $B = 5 \times 5 = 25$

17 (d) 6 is the root of $x^2 - 4x + k = 0$

$6^2 - 6 \times 4 + k = 0$ $k = -12$

18 (a) The roots of the eqn are equal

$D = b^2 - 4ac = 0$

$[-2(5+2m)]^2 - 4 \times 1 - 3(7+10m) = 0$

$m = 2$ or $\frac{1}{2}$

19 (b) $\alpha + \beta = \frac{-(-6)}{2} = 3$ $\alpha\beta = \frac{3}{2}$

$\alpha - \beta = \sqrt{(\alpha + \beta)^2 - 4\alpha\beta} = \sqrt{3^2 - 4 \times \frac{3}{2}} = \sqrt{3}$

20 (d)

$$21. (d) a^{m^2} + a^{2m} = 1 \text{ or } a^{m^2 - 2m} = a^0$$

$$\therefore m^2 - 2m = 0 \therefore m = 2$$

$$22. (c) 3^{12} \times 2^{2x} = (2 \times 3)^{12} = 2^{12} \times 3^{12}$$

$$\therefore 2^{2x} = 2^{12} \text{ or } 2x = 12 \therefore x = 6$$

$$23. (b) \quad 24. (a)$$

$$25. (a) A \cap B = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 50\} = B \quad A \cap C = A \\ = \{1, 2, \dots, 100\}$$

$$\therefore (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C) = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 100\} = A$$

$$26. (d) 3x - 10 + 2x = 180 \quad x = 38^\circ$$

$$27. (c) \text{ Angle turned by hour-hand in one hr} = \frac{360}{12} = 30^\circ$$

$$\text{Angle turned by hour hand in } \frac{15}{4} \text{ hrs}$$

$$= 30 \times \frac{15}{4} = 112\frac{1}{2}$$

$$28. (b) \quad 29. (c) \quad 30. (b) \quad 31. (b)$$

$$32. (b, c) m_1 = \text{slope of AB} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{1 - (-2)}{3 - 0} = 1$$

$$m_2 = \text{slope of BC} = \frac{4 - 1}{0 - 3} = -1,$$

$$m_3 = \text{slope of AD} = \frac{1 + 2}{-3 - 0} = -1,$$

$$m_4 = \text{slope of CD} = \frac{1 - 4}{-3 - 0} = 1.$$

$$\text{Slope of AB} = \text{Slope of CD i.e. } m_1 = m_4$$

$$\therefore AB \parallel CD$$

$$m_2 = m_3, BC \parallel AD, m_1 \times m_3 = -1$$

$$\therefore AB \perp AD, m_3 \times m_4 = -1 \therefore AD \perp CD$$

$$\therefore (b) \text{ \& } (c) \text{ True}$$

$$33. (b) \frac{AB}{BC} = \frac{DL}{EF} \therefore \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1.5}{EF} \text{ or } EF = 3$$

$$34. (d) \therefore \text{Circumcentre lies on BC}$$

$$\therefore \text{Circumcentre is the mid pt of BC}$$

$$\therefore \text{Mid-pt of the hyp. of a rt } \Delta \text{ is equidistant from all the vertices.} \quad \therefore \text{Circumcentre of the } \Delta \text{ is the pt. of intersection of } \perp \text{ bisectors of sides.}$$

$$\therefore \angle A = 90^\circ \text{ or } \angle \text{ in a semicircle} = 90^\circ$$

$$35. (a) \frac{AB}{AC} = \frac{BD}{DC} \text{ or } \frac{10}{6} = \frac{5}{DC} \therefore DC = 3 \text{ cm}$$

$$36. (b) \text{ Let the ext. angles be } 2x, 3x \text{ and } 4x$$

$$2x + 3x + 4x = 360$$

$$[\therefore \text{sum of ext. } \angle \text{s of a } \Delta = 360^\circ]$$

$$\therefore x = 40$$

$$\therefore \text{Reqd. angles are } 2 \times 40, 3 \times 40, 4 \times 40$$

$$\text{i.e. } 80^\circ, 120^\circ, 160^\circ$$

$$37. (c) \therefore PQ = \sqrt{5^2 - 4^2} = 3$$

$$\Delta PQR \cong \Delta ABC \text{ (by sss cong. rule)}$$

$$38. (c) \therefore AB = AC$$

$$\therefore \angle ABC = \angle ACB$$

$$\text{or } \angle FBC = \angle ECB$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \angle FBC = \frac{1}{2} \angle ECB \text{ or } \angle EBC = \angle FCB$$

$$\text{In } \Delta \text{s EBC and FCB}$$

$$\angle ECB = \angle FBC \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \angle EBC = \angle FCB \\ BC = CB \text{ (common)} \end{array} \right\} \text{ (proved)}$$

$$\angle EBC = \angle FCB$$

$$BC = CB \text{ (common)}$$

$$\therefore \Delta EBC \cong \Delta FCB \text{ (by As A cong. rule)}$$

$$39. (c) \frac{\text{area of Ist } \Delta}{\text{area of IInd } \Delta} = \frac{h_1^2}{h_2^2} \quad | \therefore \text{The } \Delta \text{s are similar}$$

$$\frac{4}{9} = \left(\frac{h_1}{h_2}\right)^2 \therefore \frac{h_1}{h_2} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$40. (d) \angle 3 + \angle 4 = 90^\circ \therefore \angle BAC = 90^\circ$$

$$\text{In } \Delta ADB, \angle 2 + \angle 4 + \angle 6 = 180^\circ$$

$$90 + \angle 4 + \angle 6 = 180^\circ$$

$$\therefore \angle 4 + \angle 6 = 180^\circ - 90^\circ = 90^\circ$$

$$\therefore \angle 3 + \angle 4 = \angle 4 + \angle 6 \therefore \angle 3 = \angle 6$$

$$\text{In } \Delta \text{s ADB and CDA,}$$

$$\angle 6 = \angle 3 \text{ (proved)}$$

$$\angle 1 = \angle 2 \text{ (each} = 90^\circ \text{)}$$

$$\therefore \Delta ADB \sim \Delta CDA \text{ (by AA corollary)}$$

$$\text{In } \Delta \text{s ADB and CAB,}$$

$$\angle B = \angle B, \text{ (common)}$$

$$\angle 2 = \angle BAC \text{ (each} = 90^\circ \text{)}$$

$$\therefore \Delta ADB \sim \Delta CAB \text{(i)}$$

$$\text{In } \Delta \text{s CDA and CAB,}$$

$$\angle C = \angle C \text{ (common)}$$

$$\angle 1 = \angle BAC \text{ (each} = 90^\circ \text{)}$$

$$\Delta CDA \sim \Delta CAB \text{(ii)}$$

$$\text{From (i) \& (ii)}$$

$$\Delta ADB \sim \Delta CDA \sim \Delta CAB$$

$$41. (c) AH = a, P \text{ centroid of } \Delta ABC$$

$$AP : PH = 2 : 1 \therefore AP = \frac{2}{3} AH = \frac{2}{3} a$$

$$42. (c) \therefore \text{All } \angle \text{s are equal } \therefore \Delta \text{ is equilateral}$$

$$AD \perp BC \therefore BD = \frac{BC}{2} = \frac{9}{2} \quad \frac{BD}{AD} \cot 60^\circ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$BD = \frac{6}{\sqrt{3}} = 2\sqrt{3} \therefore BC = 4\sqrt{3}$$

$$\text{Area} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} (BC)^2 = 12\sqrt{3}$$

43. (a) In ΔABC , AD is the median,

$$\therefore \text{area}(\Delta ABD) = \text{area}(\Delta ACD) \quad \dots\dots(i)$$

In ΔGBC , GD is the median

$$\therefore \text{area}(\Delta GBD) = \text{area}(\Delta GCD) \quad \dots\dots(ii)$$

Subtracting (ii) from (i), we get

$$\text{area}(\Delta AGB) = \text{area}(\Delta AGC) \quad \dots\dots(iii)$$

$$\text{Similarly, area}(\Delta AGC) = \text{area}(\Delta BGC) \quad \dots\dots(iv)$$

$$\text{From (iii) \& (iv) area}(\Delta AGB) = \text{area}(\Delta AGC)$$

$$= \text{area}(\Delta BGC)$$

$$\text{area}(\Delta AGB) + \text{area}(\Delta AGC) + \text{area}(\Delta BGC)$$

$$= \text{area}(\Delta ABC)$$

$$\therefore \text{area}(\Delta AGB) = \frac{1}{3} \text{area}(\Delta ABC)$$

$$44 \text{ (a) } \text{area}(\Delta ABC) = \frac{1}{2} ab = \frac{1}{2} pc \therefore ab = pc$$

$$a^2 b^2 = p^2 c^2 \text{ or } \frac{1}{p^2} = \frac{c^2}{a^2 b^2}$$

$$\frac{1}{p^2} = \frac{a^2 + b^2}{a^2 b^2} = \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{a^2} \quad | \quad \text{In rt } \Delta ABC, \angle C = 90^\circ$$

$$\therefore c^2 = a^2 + b^2$$

45 (b) Let the angles be x and $2x$

$$x + 2x = 180^\circ$$

$$x = 60^\circ \text{ (sum of adj } \angle\text{s of a } \parallel \text{ gm} = 180^\circ)$$

46 (d) Diagonals of a rhombus are \perp bisectors of each other

$$\therefore \text{side of a rhombus} = \sqrt{8^2 + 6^2} = 10 \text{ cm}$$

$$47 \text{ (b) } PT = \sqrt{d^2 - r^2}$$

[Radius is \perp to the tangent thro' the pt of contact]

$$48 \text{ (b) } \angle ABC = 105^\circ \quad \angle 1 = 2 \angle ABC = 2 \times 105^\circ = 210^\circ$$

$$\angle 2 = \angle AOC = 360^\circ - 210^\circ = 150^\circ$$

$$\angle OAP = 90^\circ,$$

$$\angle OCP = 90^\circ$$

| Radius is \perp to the tangent thro' the pt of contact

In quad OAPC

$$\angle 2 + \angle OAP + \angle OCP + \angle APC = 360^\circ$$

$$150^\circ + 90^\circ + 90^\circ + \angle APC = 360^\circ$$

$$\therefore \angle APC = 30^\circ$$

49. (b) The locus of the centre of the wheel is a line \parallel to the path of the wheel at a height of $\frac{d}{2}$ cm

50. (c) The reqd. Locus is a circle with diameter AB
(\angle in a semi circle = 90°)

$$51. \text{ (c) } \sin \theta = \cos \theta \Rightarrow \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} = 1$$

$$\text{or } \tan \theta = 1 = \tan 45^\circ$$

$$\therefore \theta = 45^\circ$$

$$52. \text{ (c) } 2 \sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 45^\circ = \tan 45^\circ$$

$$\therefore 2 \sin^2 \theta + \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2 = 1 \text{ or } 2$$

$$\sin^2 \theta = 1 - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\sin^2 \theta = \frac{1}{4} \therefore \sin \theta = \frac{1}{2} \quad (0^\circ \leq \theta \leq 90^\circ)$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{1}{2} = \sin 30^\circ \therefore \theta = 30^\circ, \tan 30^\circ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

53 (a) Let the angles be $x, x, 2x, x + x + 2x = 180^\circ$

$$\therefore x = 45^\circ \therefore \text{angles are } 45^\circ, 45^\circ, 90^\circ$$

$$\cos 45^\circ \cos : \cos 45^\circ \cdot \cos 90^\circ$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} : 0 \text{ or } 1 \quad 1 \quad 0$$

54 (b) $\sin \theta + \cos \theta = x$

$$\therefore \sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta + 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta = x^2$$

$$1 + 2y = x^2 \text{ or } x = \sqrt{1 + 2y}$$

55 (a) Reqd. value

$$= \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)^4 + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 + \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)^4 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{16} = \frac{9}{16}$$

$$56. \text{ (a) } x \times 1 \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \therefore x = 1$$

$$57 \text{ (a) } \tan \theta = \frac{3}{4} \therefore OP = \sqrt{3^2 + 4^2} = 5$$

$$\sin \theta \cos \theta = \frac{3}{5} \times \frac{4}{5} = \frac{12}{25}$$

$$58. \text{ (a) } \sec \theta = \frac{m+n}{2\sqrt{mn}} \therefore \cos \theta = \frac{2\sqrt{mn}}{m+n}$$

$$\sin \theta = \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \theta} = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{2\sqrt{mn}}{m+n}\right)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{(m+n)^2 - 4mn}{(m+n)^2}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{(m-n)^2}{(m+n)^2}} = \frac{m-n}{m+n}$$

59 (b) $\sec A + \tan A = 4 \dots (i) \quad \sec^2 A - \tan^2 A = 1$

$$\frac{\sec^2 A - \tan^2 A}{\sec A + \tan A} = \frac{1}{4} \text{ or } \sec A - \tan A = \frac{1}{4} \dots (ii)$$

$$\text{Adding (i) \& (ii) } 2 \sec A = \frac{17}{4} \text{ or } \sec A = \frac{17}{8}$$

$$\text{Subtracting (ii) from (i), } 2 \tan A = \frac{15}{4}$$

$$\text{or } \tan A = \frac{15}{8}$$

$$\sin A = \frac{\tan A}{\sec A} = \frac{15/8}{17/8} = \frac{15}{17}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (c) (1 + \cot A - \operatorname{cosec} A)(1 + \tan A + \sec A) \\
 &= \left(1 + \frac{\cos A}{\sin A} - \frac{1}{\sin A}\right) \left(1 + \frac{\sin A}{\cos A} + \frac{1}{\cos A}\right) \\
 &= \left(\frac{\sin A + \cos A - 1}{\sin A}\right) \left(\frac{\cos A + \sin A + 1}{\cos A}\right) \\
 &= \frac{(\sin A + \cos A)^2 - 1}{\sin A \cos A} \\
 &= \frac{\sin^2 A + \cos^2 A + 2\sin A \cos A - 1}{\sin A \cos A} \\
 &= \frac{1 + 2\sin A \cos A - 1}{\sin A \cos A} = \frac{2\sin A \cos A}{\sin A \cos A} = 2
 \end{aligned}$$

51. (d)

62. (b)

63. (a)

54. (b) $\cos \theta = \frac{3}{5} \therefore PM = \sqrt{5^2 - 3^2} = 4$

$$\frac{5\tan\theta - 4\operatorname{cosec}\theta}{5\sec\theta - 4\cos\theta} = \frac{5 \times \frac{4}{3} - 4 \times \frac{5}{4}}{5 \times \frac{5}{3} - 4 \times \frac{3}{4}} = \frac{5}{16}$$

55. (d) $\frac{\cot A + \cot B}{\tan A + \tan B} = \frac{\frac{1}{\tan A} + \frac{1}{\tan B}}{\tan A + \tan B}$

$$= \frac{\tan B + \tan A}{\tan A \tan B} \times \frac{1}{\tan A + \tan B}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\tan A \tan B} = \frac{\cot B}{\tan A}$$

56. (a) $\frac{y}{100} = \cot 45^\circ = 1 \therefore y = 100$

In ΔABC , $\frac{x}{100} = \cot 60^\circ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \therefore x = \frac{100}{\sqrt{3}}$

Reqd distance = $y - x = 100 - \frac{100}{\sqrt{3}} = 100 \left(1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right)$

$$= 100 \left(1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}}\right)$$

$$= 100 \left(1 - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}\right) = \frac{100}{3}(3 - \sqrt{3})$$

67. (d) $\frac{x}{240} = \cot 30 = \sqrt{3} \therefore x = 240\sqrt{3}$

68. (d) Let $BC = x$

$$\frac{x}{h} = \cot 60^\circ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \therefore x = \frac{h}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$\frac{h}{100+x} = \tan 30 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \Rightarrow \sqrt{3}h = 100+x$$

$$= 100 + \frac{h}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$\sqrt{3}h - \frac{h}{\sqrt{3}} = 100 \text{ or } \frac{3h-h}{\sqrt{3}} = 100 \text{ or } \frac{2h}{\sqrt{3}} = 100$$

$$\text{or } h = 50\sqrt{3}$$

69. (c) $\frac{20\sqrt{3}}{20} = \tan \theta \text{ or } \tan \theta = \sqrt{3} = \tan 60^\circ$

$$\therefore \theta = 60^\circ$$

70. (a)

71. (c)

72. (c) Yield is directly proportion to area of field

$$\frac{400}{x} = \frac{\pi(2)^2}{\pi(3)^2} \text{ or } x = 900 \text{ kg.}$$

73. (b)

74. (b) Sum of first $2n$ natural nos. $\frac{2n}{2}(2n+1)$

$$\therefore \text{Mean} = \frac{2n(2n+1)}{2 \times 2n} = \frac{2n+1}{2}$$

75. (c) Reqd score of student = $60 \times 100 - 55 \times 9 = 105$

76. (d) 77. (a) 78. (d) 79. (b) 80. (a)

81. (b) $\frac{x}{2} + \frac{x}{3} + \frac{10}{3} = x \therefore x = 20$

82. (d)

83. (d) Speed of train = $\frac{270}{18} = 15 \text{ m/sec}$

$$= 15 \times \frac{18}{5} = 54 \text{ km/hr.}$$

84. (a) A's 10 days' work = $\frac{1}{20} \times 10 = \frac{1}{2}$

$$\text{Remaining work} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{2} \text{ work was done by both}$$

$$(\text{A and B's one day's work}) = \frac{1}{20} + \frac{1}{30} = \frac{5}{60} = \frac{1}{12}$$

(A and B together do the whole job in 12 days)

$$\therefore \frac{1}{2} \text{ of the job was done in } 12 \times \frac{1}{2} = 6 \text{ days}$$

\therefore B has worked for 6 days

85. (b) (A & B's one hr's work = $1 + \frac{4}{5} = \frac{9}{5}$

$$\text{Their 8 hours' work} = \frac{9}{5} \times 8 = \frac{72}{5}$$

$$\therefore \text{Their one day's work} = \frac{72}{5}$$

$$\therefore \text{They dig } \frac{72}{5} \text{ pits in one day}$$

$$72 \text{ pits will be dug in } 1 \times \frac{5}{72} \times 72 = 5 \text{ days}$$

86. (b) Let Y's income be Rs 100 \therefore Income of X = Rs 80

If income of X is Rs 80, Y's income is Rs 20 more

If income of X is Rs 100, Y's income is

$$= \frac{20}{80} \times 100 = 25$$

- Income of Y is 25% greater than that of X
87. (d) Let the amount invested at 5% be Rs x.

$$\frac{x \times 5 \times 1}{100} + \frac{(2000 - x) \times 4 \times 1}{100} = 92 \therefore x = \text{Rs } 1200$$
88. (b) $T = \frac{300 \times 100}{600 \times 10} = 5 \text{ years}$
89. (d) Req'd. amount earned = $5500 \times \frac{(36 - 24)}{100} \times 2$
 $= \text{Rs } 1320$
90. (c) Population after three years = $10000 (1 + \frac{10}{100})^3$
 $= 13310$
91. (b) Let Rs x = Earning of a man
 6 men = 8 women
 2 women = 3 boys, 4 boys = 5 girls
 1 girl's earning = Rs 50
 $\therefore x = \frac{1 \times 8 \times 3 \times 5 \times 50}{6 \times 2 \times 4 \times 1} = \text{Rs } 125$
92. (b) Let the population of city B be x
 $\frac{x}{36000} = \frac{64000}{x}$
 $x^2 = 64000 \times 36000 \Rightarrow x = 48000$
93. (c) $\frac{16}{x} = \frac{4}{5} \therefore x = 20 \text{ kg.}$

94. (b) 95. (a)
96. (a) Let the total no. of mangoes be x
 Mangoes ate on first day = $1 + \frac{x-1}{4} = \frac{x+3}{4}$
 Mangoes ate on 2nd day = $2 + \frac{1}{4} [x - (\frac{x+3}{4} + 2)]$
 Mangoes ate on 3rd day = 3
 $\therefore \frac{x+3}{4} + 2 + \frac{1}{4} [x - (\frac{x+3}{4} + 2)] + 3 = x$
 $\therefore x = 9$
97. (a) LCM of 2, 3, 5 = 30 Req'd. no. = $30 + 1 = 31$
98. (d) Other no. = $\frac{23 \times 11339}{391} = 667$
99. (d) $\log_{10} 64 = \log_{10} 2^6 = 6 \log_{10} 2$
 $= 6 \times .3010 [\log m^n = n \log m]$
100. (d) $\log_{10} 10 + \log_{10} 10^2 + \dots + \log_{10} 10^n$
 $= \log_{10} 10 + 2 \log_{10} 10 + \dots + n \log_{10} 10$
 $= (1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n) \log_{10} 10$
 $= \frac{n}{2} (1 + n) \times 1 = \frac{n + n^2}{2} \quad \Sigma n = \frac{n}{2} (1 + n) \log_{10} 10$
 $= 1$
101. (c) Side of square = $\frac{4x+8}{4} = x+2$
 Diagonal of a square = $\sqrt{2} \times \text{Side} = \sqrt{2} (x+2)$

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102. (c)

103 (d) Area of first $\Delta = \frac{1}{2} \times 15 \times 12 = 90 \text{ m}^2$

$$\text{Height of 2nd } \Delta = \frac{2 \times \text{area of 2nd } \Delta}{\text{Base}}$$

$$= \frac{2 \times (2 \times 90)}{20} = 18 \text{ m}$$

104 (d) Req'd area $= \frac{1}{2} [\pi \times 14^2 - \pi \times 7^2] + 28 \times 14 - 14 \times 7$
 $= 525 \text{ cm}^2$

105 (a) Area of square $S_1 = a^2$ sq units

$$\text{Side of } S_2 = \sqrt{\left(\frac{a}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{a}{2}\right)^2} = \sqrt{2} \quad \frac{a}{2} = \frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\text{Area of } S_2 = \left(\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2 = \frac{a^2}{2} \text{ Area of } S_3 = \frac{a^2}{4}$$

$$a^2, \frac{a^2}{2}, \frac{a^2}{4} \quad \text{form a G.P. with } r = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$a_1 = a^2$$

$$S_N = a^2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{N-1} = \frac{a^2}{2^{N-1}}$$

106 (d) Area of a trap $= \frac{1}{2} (2 + 3) \times 4 = 10 \text{ m}^2$

107 (b) Area of shaded region = Area of semicircle
 - Area of Δ

$$= \frac{1}{2} \pi \left(\frac{2a}{2}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{2}a \times \sqrt{2}a \quad \Delta \text{ is rt } \Delta$$

Let each equal
 side be x

$$= \frac{a^2}{2} [\pi - 2] \quad x^2 + x^2 = 4a^2$$

$$x = \sqrt{2} a$$

108 (c) Area of field $= \frac{1}{2} \times 16 (10 + 12) = 176 \text{ cm}^2$

109 (c) Volume of remaining solid $= 8^3 - 2 \times 2 \times 8$
 $= 480 \text{ cm}^3$

110 (a) $lb = 5 \text{ cm}^2, bh = 8 \text{ cm}^2 \quad hl = 10 \text{ cm}^2$
 $l^2 b^2 h^2 = 5 \times 8 \times 10 \quad V = lbh = \sqrt{400} = 20 \text{ cm}^3$
 $= 4(10)$

111 (d) Length of new cuboid $= 3a$
 breadth $=$ height $= a$

$$\text{S.A. of new cuboid} = 2 [3a \times a + a \times a + a \times 3a]$$

$$= 14a^2$$

$$\text{S.A. of 3 cubes} = 3 \times 6a^2 = 18a^2$$

$$\text{Req'd ratio} = \frac{14a^2}{18a^2} = \frac{7}{9}$$

112 (b) Diagonal of a Cube $= \sqrt{3}a = \sqrt{243} \therefore a = 9 \text{ cm}$

$$\text{S. Area of a cube} = 6l^2 = 6 \times 9^2 = 486 \text{ cm}^2$$

113 (b) Vol. of a right pyramid

$$= \frac{1}{3} (\text{Area of base}) \times \text{height}$$

$$1568 = \frac{1}{3} \times 14 \times 14 \times h \quad \therefore h = \frac{1568 \times 3}{14 \times 14} = 24 \text{ cm}$$

114 (a) $r = 3 \text{ cm} \quad h = 4 \text{ cm} \quad l = \sqrt{4^2 + 3^2} = 5 \text{ cm}$

$$\text{Total S.A. of a cone} = \pi r (l + r) = 3.14 \times 3 (5 + 3)$$

$$= 75.36 \text{ cm}^2$$

115 (d) $\Delta OAB \sim \Delta OCD \quad \therefore \frac{l}{R} = \frac{h}{H}$

$$h = \frac{l}{2} H \text{ or } H = 2h \quad R = 2r$$

$$\text{Vol. of cone OPB} = \frac{1}{3} \pi r^2 h$$

$$\text{Vol. of cone OQD} = \frac{1}{3} \pi R^2 H = \frac{1}{3} \pi (2r)^2 \times 2h$$

$$= \frac{8\pi}{3} r^2 h$$

$$\text{Vol. of remaining cone} = \frac{8}{3} \pi r^2 h - \frac{1}{3} \pi r^2 h = \frac{7}{3} \pi r^2 h$$

$$\therefore \text{Req'd ratio} = \frac{\frac{1}{3} \pi r^2 h}{\frac{7}{3} \pi r^2 h} = \frac{1}{7}$$

116 (c) $11 \times 6 \times h = \frac{1}{3} \times \frac{22}{7} \times 7 \times 7 \times 9 \quad h = 7 \text{ cm}$

117 (d) No. of balls $= \frac{\frac{4}{3} \times \pi \times 8^3}{\frac{4}{3} \pi (2)^3} = 64$

118 (d) S.A. of whole cylinder $= 2\pi r (r + h)$
 $= 2 \times \frac{22}{7} \times 3.5 (3.5 + 8) = 253.0 \text{ cm}^2$

119 (b) Side of cube $=$ diameter of sphere $= 2r$

$$\text{Vol. of a cube} = (2r)^3 = 8r^3$$

$$\text{Vol. of a sphere} = \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3$$

Vol. enclosed between cube and the sphere

$$= 8r^3 - \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3 = \left(8 - \frac{4}{3}\pi\right)r^3$$

120 (a) $V_1 = V_2 \quad \pi r_1^2 h_1 = \pi r_2^2 h_2 \quad \frac{h_1}{h_2} = \frac{1}{3}$

$$\frac{r_1^2}{r_2^2} = \frac{h_2}{h_1} = \frac{3}{1} \therefore \frac{r_1}{r_2} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{1}$$

$$\text{or } r_1 : r_2 = \sqrt{3} : 1$$

GENERAL AWARENESS

Orissa Subordinate Staff Selection Commission Exam 22nd October, 1995

1. Who among the following personalities was not the President of India?
 - (a) Zakir Hussain
 - (b) G.S. Pathak
 - (c) B.D. Jatti
 - (d) N.S. Reddy
2. Identify the wrong matching:
 - (a) Formosa—Taiwan
 - (b) Persia—Iran
 - (c) Mesopotamia—Iraq
 - (d) Congo—Zambia
3. Antigen is a substance which:
 - (a) lowers the body temperature
 - (b) destroys harmful bacteria
 - (c) stimulates formation of anti-body
 - (d) is used against poison
4. Seismograph is used for:
 - (a) measuring thickness of earth's crust
 - (b) reading the intensity and origin of earthquake shocks
 - (c) measuring density of milk
 - (d) None of these
5. Which of the following sources is an example of renewable energy?
 - (a) Coal
 - (b) Petroleum
 - (c) Bio Gas
 - (d) Natural Gas
6. Air is more polluted because of:
 - (a) Carbon dioxide
 - (b) Nitrogen
 - (c) Oxygen
 - (d) Carbon Monoxide
7. Who among the following was sentenced to death?
 - (a) Z.A. Bhutto
 - (b) Mujibur Rehman
 - (c) R. Premadasa
 - (d) All of them
8. In which year Israel-P.L.O. accord was signed?
 - (a) 1984
 - (b) 1987
 - (c) 1991
 - (d) 1993
9. Which of the following subject was passed in the 61st Amendment Act of the Indian Constitution?
 - (a) Goa became a State of India
 - (b) Hindi version of the Constitution officially accepted
 - (c) State Governments were empowered to raise professional tax
 - (d) None of these
10. Out of the following which is the function of Attorney General of India?
 - (a) Control of State expenditures and accounts
 - (b) Control and conduct of elections
 - (c) Legal advice to Central Government
 - (d) Arbitration between the Centre and States
11. MODVAT is the name of:
 - (a) a book
 - (b) Satellite
 - (c) A tax imposed on the final product
 - (d) A tribal group
12. What is inflation?
 - (a) Expansion of rubber
 - (b) Too much of goods
 - (c) Rise in the value of money
 - (d) Continuous rise in prices
13. Which sector got the highest amount of Plan outlay during the 8th Five-Year Plan?
 - (a) Agriculture
 - (b) Service
 - (c) Mining and quarrying
 - (d) Manufacturing
14. Which is the largest river in the world?
 - (a) Nile

- (b) Missouri-Mississippi
(c) Ganga
(d) Amazon
15. Bastille prison is in:
(a) Paris (b) Berlin
(c) London (d) Rome
16. The country which produces highest quantity of sugarcane is:
(a) India (b) Malaysia
(c) Cuba (d) China
17. In which year was East-India Company established?
(a) 1492 (b) 1590
(c) 1600 (d) 1604
18. In which year the first Indian railway line started functioning?
(a) 1787 (b) 1839
(c) 1853 (d) 1858
19. Treaty of Versailles was signed in:
(a) London (b) Berlin
(c) Vienna (d) None of these
20. Which country fought Hundred Years War against England?
(a) Russia (b) Germany
(c) France (d) Spain
21. In which year was the Khilafat Movement started?
(a) 1911 (b) 1920
(c) 1917 (d) 1925
22. The National Botanical garden is located in:
(a) Bangalore (b) Lucknow
(c) Calcutta (d) Dehradun
23. Central Leather Research Institute is located in:
(a) Madras (b) Kanpur
(c) Calcutta (d) Faridabad
24. The headquarter of the U.N is located at:
(a) New York (b) Paris
(c) Washington (d) Geneva
25. Which Article of the Constitution of India empowers the Parliament to amend the Constitution?
(a) 370 (b) 368
(c) 390 (d) 376
26. A Judge of the Supreme Court can hold office upto the age of:
(a) 58 years (b) 62 years
(c) 60 years (d) 65 years
27. The maximum proportion of Central budget for 1994-95 outlay was allocated to which sector?
(a) Energy (b) Industry and Minerals
(c) Transport (d) Communication
28. Which of the following taxes is not shared by the Central Government with the States?
(a) Union Excise Duties
(b) Customs duty
(c) Income tax
(d) Estate duty
29. Which State is the leading producer of cocoanut?
(a) Assam (b) Kerala
(c) Tamil Nadu (d) Karnataka
30. Who are the 'Moplas'?
(a) Tribals of Madhya Pradesh
(b) Ancient inhabitants of Goa
(c) Muslim Tribals of Kerala
(d) Christians of Coorg
31. The Ocean covers approximately how much percentage of the earth's surface?
(a) 50% (b) 60%
(c) 70% (d) 80%
32. The distance between consecutive longitudes at the Poles is:
(a) 0 km (b) 18 km
(c) 25 km (d) 10 km
33. Plants receive their nutrients mainly from:
(a) Chlorophyll (b) Atmosphere
(c) Light (d) Soil
34. Potato is a modified form of:
(a) Root (b) Fruit
(c) Stem (d) Leaf
35. Shortsightedness can be corrected by:
(a) Concave lens
(b) Convex lens
(c) Concave-Convex lens
(d) Convex-Concave lens
36. Classical dance style of Andhra Pradesh is:
(a) Kathakali (b) Kuchipudi
(c) Odissi (d) Bharat Natyam
37. Bauxite is an important ore of:
(a) Aluminium (b) Zinc
(c) Copper (d) Mica
38. Which country leads in the production of asbestos?
(a) India (b) Canada
(c) Russia (d) U.S.A.
39. Who is the author of the book "War and Peace"?
(a) Adam Smith (b) Leo Tolstoy

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(c) T.S. Eliot (d) James Joyce

40. Which country hosted the First Asian Games?

(a) Indonesia (b) U.S.S.R.
(c) India (d) China

41. Which game was introduced in 1988 Olympics?

(a) Tennis (b) Table Tennis
(c) Badminton (d) Rowing

42. Diego Garcia is situated in the:

(a) Pacific Ocean (b) Indian Ocean
(c) Atlantic Ocean (d) Arctic Ocean

43. Hindustan Shipyard is located at:

(a) Madras (b) Bombay
(c) Cochin (d) Vishakhapatnam

44. Theology is the study of:

(a) Earthquake (b) Religion
(c) Animal life (d) Plants

45. Cooking oil can be converted into vegetable ghee by the process of:

(a) Hydrogenation (b) Distillation
(c) Crystallisation (d) Oxidation

46. Who was the first woman President of Indian National Congress?

(a) Sarojini Naidu (b) Annie Besant
(c) Vijay Laxmi Pandit (d) Indira Gandhi

47. Who is the author of the book "Uncle Tom's Cabin"?

(a) John Ruskin (b) James Jeans
(c) H.G. Wells (d) H.B. Stowe

48. Earth moves from:

(a) East to West (b) West to East
(c) South to North (d) North to South

ANSWERS

- | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (d) | 3. (c) |
| 4. (b) | 5. (c) | 6. (a) |
| 7. (a) | 8. (d) | 9. (d) |
| 10. (c) | 11. (c) | 12. (d) |
| 13. (a) | 14. (a) | 15. (a) |
| 16. (c) | 17. (c) | 18. (c) |
| 19. (d) | 20. (c) | 21. (b) |
| 22. (b) | 23. (a) | 24. (a) |
| 25. (b) | 26. (d) | 27. (a) |
| 28. (b) | 29. (b) | 30. (c) |
| 31. (c) | 32. (a) | 33. (d) |
| 34. (a) | 35. (a) | 36. (b) |
| 37. (a) | 38. (b) | 39. (b) |
| 40. (c) | 41. (c) | 42. (b) |
| 43. (d) | 44. (b) | 45. (a) |
| 46. (b) | 47. (d) | 48. (b) |

TEST OF REASONING—I

Find out the missing number:

- 1 6, 9, 14, , 30
(a) 17 (b) 19 (c) 23 (d) 21
(e) None of these
- 2 129, 8, 121, 9, 112, , 119, 87
(a) 25 (b) 10 (c) 16 (d) 31
(e) None of these
- 3 124, 85, 112, 102, , 119, 88
(a) 107 (b) 96 (c) 105 (d) 100
(e) None of these
- 4 2, 3, 10, 15, ,
(a) 21 (b) 26 (c) 24 (d) 22
(e) None of these
- 5 87, 78, 63, 36, , 94
(a) 52 (b) 49 (c) 45 (d) 71
(e) None of these
- 6 1, 1, 4, 8, 9, 27, 16,
(a) 24 (b) 32 (c) 64 (d) 48
(e) None of these
- 7 7, , 15, 23, 38, 61
(a) 10 (b) 12 (c) 9 (d) 8
(e) None of these
- 8 2, 5, 9, , 37, 75, 149
(a) 13 (b) 17 (c) 19 (d) 23
(e) None of these

In questions 9 to 13, four out of five pairs of numbers have similar relationship while one is different. Your task is to find this odd-man out.

- 9 (a) 6 37 (b) 1 2 (c) 3 16
(d) 5 26 (e) 7 50
- 10 (a) 9 43 (b) 4 18 (c) 1 3
(d) 10 48 (e) 6 27
- 11 (a) 10 6 (b) 100 52 (c) 2 2
(d) 22 12 (e) 16 9
- 12 (a) 2 9 (b) 4 65 (c) 6 127
(d) 1 2 (e) 3 28
- 13 (a) 5 12 (b) 9 20 (c) 3 8
(d) 11 24 (e) 6 16

Qs 14. to 16 Correct the following equations by inter-changing two signs (Use BODMAS for calculations)

- 14 $(8 + 4) - (36 + 12) \times 6 = 35$
(a) + and - (b) - and \times
(c) + and \times (d) + and -
(e) None of these
- 15 $[(21 - 3) + (4 + 5)] \times 2 - 4$

- (a) - and \times (b) + and +
(c) \times and + (d) \times and +
(e) None of these

16 $28 + 32 \div 4 - 2 \times 6 = 32$

- (a) + and \times
(b) + and +
(c) + and -
(d) \times and +
(e) None of these

Which would be the next set in the series.

- 17 CF, DF, EH, FK, ?
(a) GN (b) HO (c) HN
(d) GO (e) NS
- 18 BDG, HJM, NPS, TVY, ?
(a) XZA (b) WXZ (c) ZAD
(d) ZBI (e) ZBE
- 19 AZ, CX, FV, GT, ?
(a) IR (b) HS (c) HR
(d) IS (e) IQ
- 20 QSR, UWV, YAZ, CED, ?
(a) FHG (b) HGI (c) GHI
(d) FHI (e) HJI

Questions 21 to 25 are based on the letters used in the word FINGERPRINT

- 21 Which popular word can be formed with 2nd, 6th, 9th and 11th letters of the word? If no such word can be formed, write X
- 22 How many letters occur twice in the word?
(a) 4 (b) 3 (c) 2 (d) 1
(e) None of these
- 23 Which letter is in the middle of 8th letter from the right and 6th letter from the left?
(a) E (b) R (c) P (d) C
(e) None of these
- 24 How many sets of two letters have as many letters between them as they have in the alphabetical order?
(a) None (b) 1 (c) 2 (d) 3
(e) 4
- 25 Four out of the five words given below are related to the lead word in a similar way. Find out the one that is different
(a) RANGI
(b) SPRING
(c) FIGURE
(d) EARING
(e) PRINTING

NON-VERBAL SERIES

Qs. 26 to 55. Given below are two sets of figures, the 'Problem Figures' and the 'Answer Figures' marked A, B, C, D and E. You have to find out which figure from A, B, C, D and E would be the next one in the series of Problem Figures.

PROBLEM FIGURES

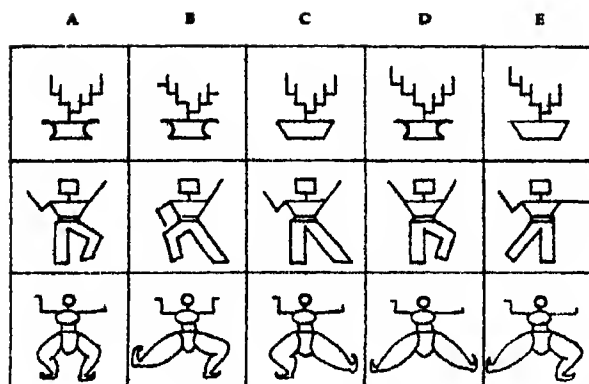
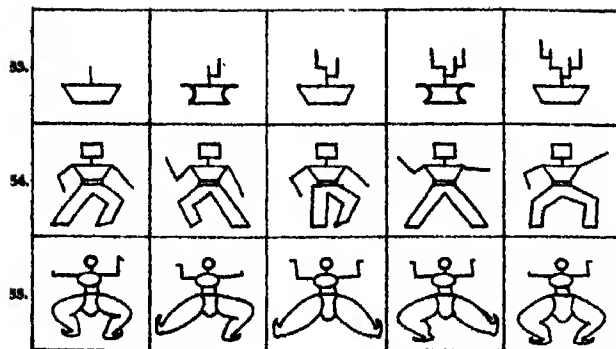
ANSWER FIGURES

26.					
27.					
28.					
29.					
30.					
31.					
32.					
33.					
34.					
35.					
36.					
37.					
38.					

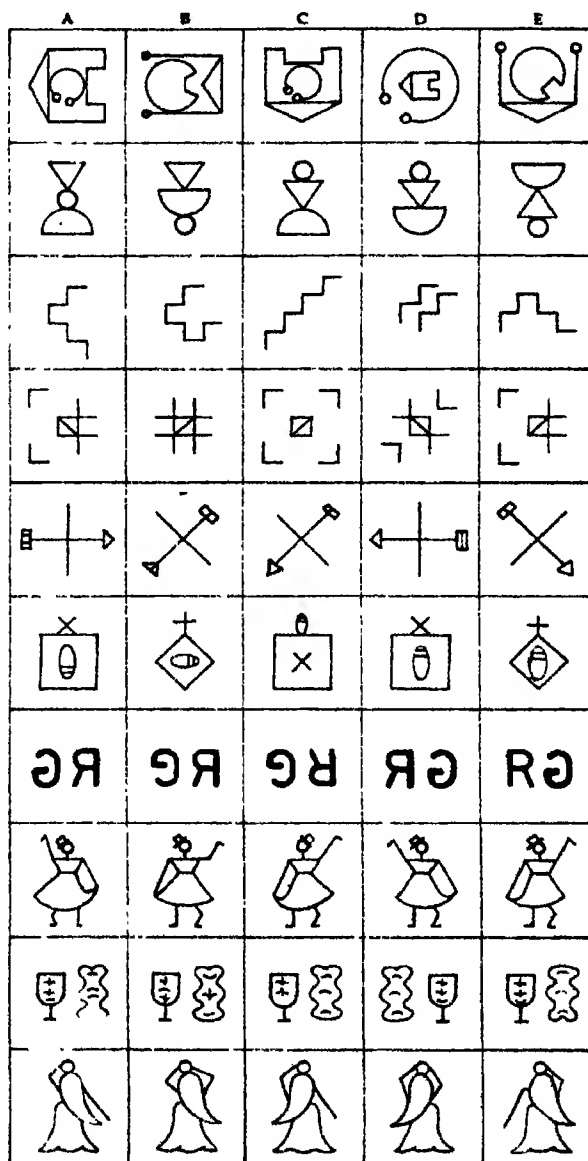
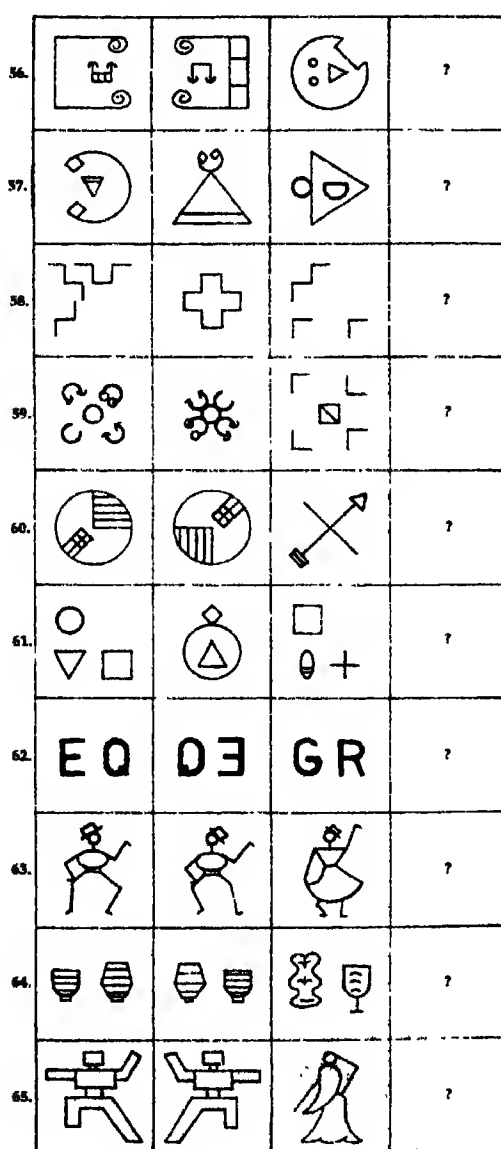
A	B	C	D	E

39.					
40.					
41.					
42.	$0 + 1$	$0 \cup 1$	$0 \uparrow -$	$- + 0$	$1 \cup 0$
	$\uparrow \wedge \cup$	$+ \vee \uparrow$	$\cup \wedge +$	$\uparrow \vee \cup$	$+ \wedge \uparrow$
43.					
44.					
45.					
46.					
47.					
48.	$=$	$=$	$=$	$=$	$=$
49.					
50.					
51.					
52.	$\vee \downarrow$	$\Delta \Downarrow$	$\nabla \Downarrow$	$\Delta \Downarrow$	$\nabla \Downarrow$

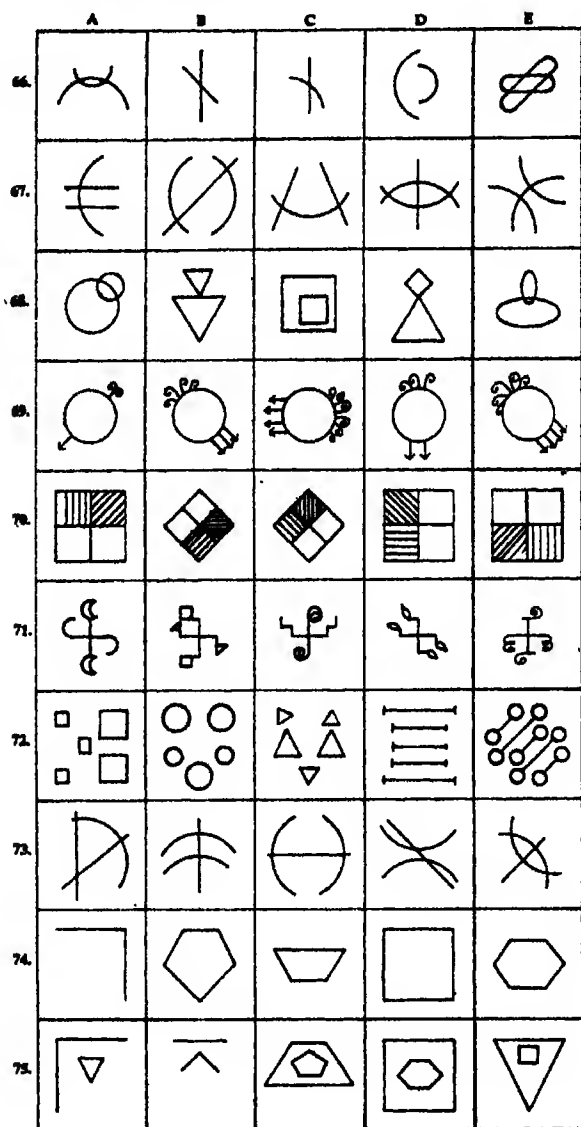
A	B	C	D	E
$1 \uparrow 0$	$- \cup 0$	$0 + 1$	$/ \cup 0$	$1 \uparrow 0$
$+ \vee \cup$	$\cup \vee +$	$\uparrow \wedge \cup$	$\cup \vee +$	$\cup \vee +$
$=$	$=$	$=$	$=$	$=$
$\nabla \Downarrow$	$\Delta \Downarrow$	$\nabla \Downarrow$	$\Delta \Downarrow$	$\Delta \Downarrow$



Qs. 56 to 65. In each of the following questions, the first two figures have a definite relationship. Your task is to find out from answer figures marked A, B, C, D and E the figure that has the same relationship with the third figure.



Find the odd-man out:



ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

- (d) The numbers have difference of 3, 5, 7, 9... respectively.
- (a) $129 - 8 = 121$; $121 - 9 = 112$; $112 - 25 = 87$...
- (d) There are two series, one with a difference of 12; 124, 112... and the other with a difference of 17, 85, 102, 119...
- (b) The series is $1^2 + 1$; $2^2 - 1$; $3^2 + 1$; $4^2 - 1$...
- (b) Make sets of two and reverse the digits of the first number.
- (c) The series is, 1^2 ; 1^3 ; 2^2 ; 2^3 ; 3^2 ; 3^3 ...
- (a) Go on adding the numbers, $7 + 8 = 15$; $8 + 15 = 23$...
- (c) The series is, $2 \times 2 + 1$; $5 \times 2 - 1$; $9 \times 2 + 1$; $19 \times 2 - 1$...
- (c) The series is $x : x^2 + 1$
- (e) The numbers are $x : 5x - 2$

- (b) The numbers are $x : \frac{x}{2} + 1$
 - (c) The numbers are $x : x^3 + 1$
 - (e) The numbers are $x : 2x + 2$
 - (c) 15. (b) 16. (c) 17. (d) 18. (e)
 - (a) 20. (c) 21. TRIP 22. (b) INR 23. (a)
 - (d) FINGERPRINT;
FINGERPRINT;
FINGERPRINT
 - (e) All the other words have one letter which does not occur in the word FINGERPRINT.
- Qs. 26 to 55. For answering these questions, each figure has to be considered and studied individually as well as in relationship with other figures. The following points may serve as guideline for solving these questions.
- The figure may turn upside down, rotate clockwise/anti-clockwise, swing or change direction from right to left or vice-versa. (Example, Qs. 28, 34, 46, 47 etc.)
 - The figures may go round clockwise, anti-clockwise, right and left, up or down, corner to corner or may move from certain point to another one at a regular pace or increasing or decreasing its pace. (Example, 27, 28, 38 etc.)
 - The figures may change their size or shape with each step. (Example, square in question 34, line in question 39 etc.)
 - Some figures may disappear or reappear after a certain interval—(Example, Qs. 28, 48 etc.), while some figures may be added with each step. (Example Qs. 29, 31, 35, 45, 52 etc.)
 - Small figures may have a definite movement along big figures they are attached to. (Example Qs. 39, 46, 50 etc.)
 - Figures may interchange places. Also some figures in a question may interchange places in one direction and the remaining in another way. (Example, Qs. 33, 37, 42 etc.)
- E 27. B 28. B 29. B 30. A
 - D 32. C 33. E 34. E 35. C
 - A 37. D 38. A 39. B 40. D
 - B 42. E 43. A 44. D 45. C
 - A 47. E 48. C 49. E 50. B
 - C 52. D 53. A 54. C 55. E

Qs. 56 to 65. Study the relationship of figures among the first set and match it with second set.

- A 57. C 58. C 59. E 60. B
- D 62. D 63. E 64. A 65. A
- C. In all the others the two figures are similar.
- E. In all the others two similar lines are cut by a different type of line. Here, all are similar curves.
- D. In all the others, the big and the small figures are similar.
- C. The number of arrows should be one less than the other figures.
- B. The lines of pattern are wrong.
- D. Two edges should have pattern on the same side.
- B. In all the others two figures are big and three are small.
- A. All the others have two curves and one straight line.
- C. In all the others, all the lines of figures are of equal dimension.
- D. In all the others, the figure inside has one arm extra, this one has two.

TEST OF REASONING—II

(Questions 1-29 were asked in BSRB (Delhi) P.O. Examination, 29.10.95)

Answer questions 1-5 on the basis of the following alphabets:

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

1. Four out of the five sets of letters given below are alike in regard to their position in alphabet and hence form a group. Which of the following does not belong to the group?

- (a) BDF (b) IKG (c) QOM
(d) RTW (e) IKM

2. What comes in place of question-mark in following letter sequence:

JXG; HTJ; FPN; ?; BHY

- (a) DLS (b) ELS (c) DLR
(d) DLT (e) None of these

3. Which of the following comes in place of question-mark?

BC : YX :: EF : ?

- (a) UV (b) VU (c) WV
(d) VW (e) None of these

4. If the sequence of the alphabet is reversed, which of the following would be 14th letter from your left?

- (a) N (b) L (c) O
(d) P (e) None of these

5. If the second half of the alphabet is reversed, then which of the following would be 9th letter to the right of 8th letter from your left?

- (a) X (b) Q (c) W
(d) D (e) None of these

6. If '+' means divided by, '-' means multiplied by, 'x' means minus and + means plus, which of the following would be the value of expression, $16 \div 8 - 4 \times 2 + 4$?

- (a) 16 (b) 44 (c) 32
(d) 28 (e) None of these

7. In a certain code, 'nee muk pic' means 'grave and concern', 'ill dic so' means 'every body else' and 'tur muk so' means 'soul and body'

What would be the code for 'every concern'?

- (a) ill nee (b) pic nee (c) dic pic
(d) Cannot be determined (e) None of these

8. How many even numbers are there in the following sequence of numbers which are immediately followed by an odd number as well as immediately preceded by an even number:

8 6 7 6 8 9 3 2 7 5 3 4 2 2 3 5 5 2 2 8 1 1 9

- (a) 1 (b) 3 (c) 5
(d) 6 (e) None of these

9. Which of the following would come in place of question-mark?

class-room : black-board :: cinema : ?

- (a) light (b) film (c) projector
(d) balcony (e) screen

10. In a row of boys Raman is 14th from the right and 13th

from the left. How many boys are there in the row?

- (a) 27 (b) 28 (c) 25
(d) Cannot be determined (e) None of these

11-15. Read the information given below and answer questions 11-15.

- (a) There is a family of six members, A, B, C, D, E and F.
(b) There are two married couples and the family members belong to three generations.
(c) Each member has a distinct choice of colour among green, yellow, black, white, red and pink.
(d) No lady member likes green or white.
(e) C, who likes black colour is the daughter-in-law of E.
(f) B is the brother of F and son of D and likes pink.
(g) A is grand-mother of F and F does not like red.
(h) The wife of the husband whose choice is green, likes yellow colour.

11. Which of the following is one of the married couples?

- (a) CD (b) DA (c) AC
(d) Cannot be determined (e) None of these

12. How many male members are there in the family?

- (a) 2 (b) 3 (c) 4
(d) Cannot be determined (e) None of these

13. Which of the following is true about F? F is the ...

- (a) brother of B (b) sister of B
(c) Either brother or sister of B (d) daughter of C
(e) None of these

14. Which one is the colour preference of A?

- (a) red (b) yellow (c) red or yellow
(d) Cannot be determined (e) None of these

15. Which of the following is the choice colour-combination of one of the couples?

- (a) yellow-red (b) green-black (c) red-yellow
(d) yellow-green (e) None of these

Study the following information and answer questions 16 and 17.

Information: A, B, C, D, E and F are seated in a circle facing the centre. D is between F and B; A is second to the left of D and second to the right of E.

16. Who among the following is facing D?

- (a) C (b) A (c) E
(d) Can't be determined (e) None of these

17. Who is facing A?

- (a) B (b) F (c) B or F
(d) D (e) None of these

Study the following information and answer questions 18 and 19.

Information: Jayesh is taller than Mohan but shorter than Ashok; Shashi is taller than Mohan but shorter than Vijay.

18. Who is the shortest?

- (a) Jayesh (b) Shashi (c) Vijay
(d) Cannot be determined (e) None of these

19. Who is the tallest?

- (a) Ashok (b) Vijay (c) Ashok or Vijay
(d) Cannot be determined (e) None of these

20. Four out of five are alike in a certain way and thus form a group. Which of the following does not belong to this group?

- (a) 1995 (b) 1998 (c) 1991
(d) 1996 (e) 1990

21. How many pairs of letters (from both directions) are there in the word 'CONVENT' which have as many letters between them in the word as in the alphabet?

- (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3
(d) None (e) None of these

Study the following information to answer questions

22-24.

Information: Five plays A, B, C, D and E are to be staged from Monday to Friday of a week.

On each day only one play would be staged.

E should be immediately followed by C.

B should be staged immediately after D.

D or E should not be either the first or the last to be staged.

One play should be staged between A and B.

22. Which is the correct sequence of plays?

- (a) AECDB (b) ADBCE (c) BDAEC
(d) DBECA (e) None of these

23. Which play was staged on the first day?

- (a) A (b) B (c) C
(d) Cannot be determined (e) None of these

24. Which of the plays was staged on Wednesday?

- (a) B or C (b) B (c) A
(d) Can't be determined (e) None of these

Qs. 25 to 29. Each of the following questions has a question and two statements marked I and II. You have to decide whether the data provided in the statements is sufficient to answer the question. Read both the statements carefully and give the answer:

- (a) if the data given in statement I alone is sufficient to answer the question while the data given in statement II alone isn't sufficient to answer the question.
(b) if the data given in statement II alone is sufficient to answer the question while the data provided in statement I alone isn't sufficient to answer the question.
(c) Either the data provided in statement I alone or II alone is sufficient to answer the question.
(d) The data provided in both the statements are not sufficient to answer the question.
(e) The data given in both the statements are needed to answer the question.

25. What is Meena's rank in her class?

- I. There are 26 students in her class.
II. There are 9 students who have scored less than Meena.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

26. The cost of kit is solely based on the number of leaves. How many leaves does the kit have?

- I. The cost of kit of medium size is Rs 850.
II. The small size kit contains 55 leaves.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

27. In a certain number language 297 means 'tie clip button', which number means 'button'?

I. In that language 926 means 'clip your tie'.

II. In that language 175 means 'hole and button'.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

28. What is the distance between A and B?

I. Journey between A and B can be performed by rail.

II. Railway time-table gives the distance of rail journey.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

29. At what time does the office start working?

I. Some employees reach office at 9.30 A.M.

II. Some employees leave office at 4.30 P.M.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Find the odd-man out:

30. (a) triangle (b) prism (c) square

(d) circle (e) hexagon

31. (a) hook (b) bait (c) line

(d) fish (e) trap

32. (a) yen (b) lira (c) rupee

(d) taka (e) pint

33. (a) hammer (b) chisel (c) spade

(d) saw (e) screwdriver

Qs. 34 to 38. Words in the following questions are written in code, each small letter representing one capital letter. Your task is to find out the right code for letter in the box:

34. A ☐ R O U N D

- (a) q (b) f (c) y (d) k (e) c (f) b

35. I N S U R ☐ E

- (a) h (b) k (c) q (d) z (e) c (f) x

36. W A N ☐ T E D

- (a) f (b) c (c) g (d) l (e) y (f) h

37. R E M ☐ A I N

- (a) c (b) x (c) p (d) h (e) f (f) k

38. ☐ S T R A I N

- (a) g (b) z (c) k (d) c (e) x (f) f

Questions 39 to 42 are based on the information given below:

In a certain city, the market, temple, hospital, school, bank, post-office and Prabhat's house are situated as follows:

Prabhat's house is 3 km to the west of Bank.

Hospital is 3 km to the west of Post Office.

School is 2 km to the south of market.

Hospital is 3 km to the north of Prabhat's house.

Market is 3 km to the east of temple.

Bank is 4 km to the south of temple.

There is only one road that joins the school with the market.

All the other places are connected together by either north and south or east and west roads.

39. Which three places lie in a single straight line?

- (a) Temple, Bank and Prabhat's house.
(b) Prabhat's house, Bank and Hospital.
(c) The Temple, School and Market.
(d) Post Office, Bank and Temple
(e) None of these

40. Which two places are the farthest?

- (a) Hospital and Bank
- (b) Market and Prabhat's house
- (c) School and Hospital
- (d) Market and Bank
- (e) None of these

41. How far is Prabhat's school from his house by road? (In kilometres)

- (a) 12
- (b) 9
- (c) 15
- (d) 8
- (e) None of these

42. Prabhat's father wants to fetch his son from the school at 3.30 P.M. but on his way, he has to visit a patient in the hospital for 10 mts, has 20 mts work at the bank, 5 mts work at the Post Office. He also wants to stop at the temple for 5 mts and has a shopping list that would take 20 mts in the market. At what time should he start from home to reach the school at 3.30 P.M. exactly and finish all these works on way if the average speed at which he drives his car is 30 km per hour?

- (a) 2.12 P.M.
- (b) 2.36 P.M.
- (c) 1.54 P.M.
- (d) 1.48 P.M.
- (e) None of these

43. At what time would they return home if they drive at the same speed, i.e. 30 km per hour.

- (a) 3.54 P.M.
- (b) 3.48 P.M.
- (c) 3.52 P.M.
- (d) 4.02 P.M.
- (e) None of these

In each question below are given two statements followed by four conclusions numbered I, II, III and IV. You have to take the two given statements to be true even if they seem at variance with commonly known facts. Read all the conclusions and then decide which of the given conclusions logically follow from the two given statements, disregarding commonly known facts.

Statements:

- 44. 1. All friends are cheats.
- 2. Some cheats are neighbours.

Conclusions:

- I. All friends are neighbours.
- II. Some neighbours are friends.
- III. Some cheats are not friends.
- IV. No friend is a neighbour.

- (a) Only I and III follow.
- (b) Either II or IV follows.
- (c) Either III or IV follows.
- (d) Both I and IV follow.
- (e) Only II follows.

Statements:

- 45. 1. All flowers are trees.
- 2. All trees are worms.

Conclusions:

- I. All trees are flowers.
- II. Some worms are flowers.
- III. All flowers are worms.
- IV. Some worms are neither tree nor flower.

- (a) Only I follows.
- (b) Only III follows.
- (c) Only IV follows.
- (d) Only II and III follow.
- (e) None follows.

Statements:

- 46. 1. Some farmers are land-lords.
- 2. Some doctors are land-lords.

Conclusions:

- I. Every land-lord is either doctor or farmer.
- II. Some land-lords are neither farmer nor doctor.

- III. Some land-lords are doctors as well as farmers.
- IV. The farmers who are not land-lords are doctors.

- (a) Only I and II follow.
- (b) Only II and III follow.
- (c) Only III and IV follow.
- (d) All the conclusions follow.
- (e) Only one from I, II and III follows.

Statements:

- 47. 1. Some singers are painters.
- 2. All painters are dancers.

Conclusions:

- I. Some singers are dancers.
- II. Some dancers are painters.
- III. Some singers are not painters.
- IV. Some painters are singers.

- (a) Only I, II and III follow.
- (b) Only II, III and IV follow.
- (c) All the conclusions follow.
- (d) Only I, III and IV follow.
- (e) Only III and IV follow.

Statements:

- 48. 1. All books are pamphlets.
- 2. All magazines are pamphlets.

Conclusions:

- I. Some pamphlets are books as well as magazines.
- II. Every pamphlet is either book or magazine.
- III. No pamphlet is book as well as magazine.
- IV. All magazines are books.

- (a) Either I or III follows.
- (b) Either II or IV follows.
- (c) Only I and II follow.
- (d) Only II and IV follow.
- (e) Only II and III follow.

Statements:

- 49. 1. Some pots are clothes.
- 2. Some clothes are shoes.

Conclusions:

- I. Some pots are shoes.
- II. All clothes are pots.
- III. All shoes are clothes.
- IV. All shoes are pots.

- (a) Only I follows.
- (b) Only II follows.
- (c) Only III and IV follow.
- (d) Either II or IV follows.
- (e) None follows.

Statements:

- 50. 1. Some cities are factories.
- 2. All mines are cities.

Conclusions:

- I. Some cities are mines.
- II. Some factories are not cities.
- III. All cities are mines.
- IV. Some factories are neither city nor mine.

- (a) Only I follows.
- (b) Either I or III follows.
- (c) Either II or IV follows.
- (d) None follows.
- (e) All the conclusions follow.

Statements:

- 51. 1. Some teachers are businessmen.
- 2. All doctors are businessmen.

Conclusions:

- I. All businessmen are teachers as well as doctors.

- II. No teacher is a doctor.
- III. Some teachers are not businessmen.
- IV. Some doctors are not businessmen.
- (a) Only I follows. (b) Only II follows.
- (c) Only III follows. (d) Only IV follows.
- (e) None follows.

In each question below is given a statement followed by three assumptions numbered I, II and III. An assumption is something supposed or taken for granted. You have to consider the statement and the assumptions and decide which of the assumptions is implicit in the statement. Then decide which of the answers is correct.

Statement:

52. High level leaders don't prefer to shift from National politics to State politics.

Assumptions:

- I. States do not hold very important position in politics.
- II. State politics is inferior to national politics.
- III. National level of politics is more important than the State level.
- (a) Only I is implicit. (b) Only II is implicit.
- (c) Only III is implicit.
- (d) Only II and III are implicit.
- (e) None is implicit.

Statement:

53. As soon as the militants stepped into the street, the shop-keepers pulled down their shutters and traffic came to a halt.

Assumptions:

- I. The sight of militants meant trouble.
- II. The business community and the general public on the streets did not want any confrontation with the militants.
- III. The people of that particular area knew the militants by sight.
- (a) Only I and II are implicit. (b) Only II is implicit.
- (c) Only II and III are implicit.
- (d) Only I and III are implicit.
- (e) All are implicit.

Statement:

54. Every sensible person realizes that religion and politics should not be mixed together.

Assumptions:

- I. If religion is mixed with politics, the political leaders use certain elements to create communal discord.
- II. Persons, who are not sensible, believe that religion is a part and parcel of politics.
- III. Political leaders have no religious feelings.
- (a) Only I is implicit. (b) Only II is implicit.
- (c) Only III is implicit.
- (d) Only II and III are implicit.
- (e) None is implicit.

Statement:

55. A Jain monk discussed fundamentals of Jainism including non-violence, peaceful co-existence and environmental protection with the President of America.

Assumptions:

- I. The President had invited him to America.
- II. These virtues are not preached by any other religion.
- III. The American President was quite ignorant about the fundamentals of Jainism.
- (a) Only I is implicit.

- (b) Only II and III are implicit.
- (c) Only III is implicit. (d) Only I and III are implicit.
- (e) None is implicit.

Statement:

56. Efforts are being made to revive Sikkim's traditional handicrafts industries of wool-weaving and wood-work.

Assumptions:

- I. The artisans were not getting sufficient value of their products.
- II. Other occupations were more paying.
- III. The government is particular about preserving traditional crafts.
- (a) Only I and II are implicit.
- (b) Only II and III are implicit.
- (c) Only I and III are implicit.
- (d) All are implicit. (e) Only III is implicit.

Statement:

57. A report observes that if the whole of India had birth and child death rates similar to Kerala, the country would have ten million fewer births and 1.5 million fewer infant deaths.

Assumptions:

- I. Kerala has done wonderful job in controlling population and bringing down infant mortality rate.
- II. Kerala has more doctors than other parts of the country.
- III. Kerala is the only state where the family welfare programme has been launched.
- (a) Only I is implicit. (b) Only I and II are implicit.
- (c) Only III is implicit. (d) Only II and III are implicit.
- (e) All the three are implicit.

Statement:

58. In the Banswara district of Rajasthan, women have learnt the necessary skills for maintenance of handpumps and thus have improved and regularized their water supply.

Assumptions:

- I. The literacy among women in Banswara is cent per cent.
- II. Women are better mechanics than men.
- III. Handpumps often stop working if proper maintenance is not provided.
- (a) Only I is implicit. (b) Only II is implicit.
- (c) Only III is implicit. (d) Only I and II are implicit.
- (e) Only II and III are implicit.

Statement:

59. The daily struggle of the majority of the population is just for survival and so they are unaware of things happening around.

Assumptions:

- I. It is not easy for an average person to make the two ends meet.
- II. The changes in the world are brought by those only who have not to struggle for basic necessities.
- III. For the majority of people, just working for survival takes all the time.
- (a) Only I is implicit. (b) Only II and III are implicit.
- (c) Either I or III is implicit.
- (d) Only I and II are implicit.
- (e) All are implicit.

Below is given a passage followed by several possible inferences which can be drawn from the facts stated in the passage. You have to examine each inference separately in the context of the passage and

decide upon its degree of truth or falsity. Mark your answers

- (a) if the inference is definitely true
 (b) if the inference is probably true
 (c) if data is inadequate
 (d) if probably false (e) if definitely false

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs recommended amendment of the Indian Penal Code to empower courts to order payment of compensation to a victim of unlawful arrest or illegal detention, hitherto unprovided for under Indian law. This Committee headed by Mr Rajni Ranjan Sahu rejected the proposal that there should be a limit on the amount of compensation to be awarded to the victim. The Committee observed that it should be proportionate to the period of unlawful detention or confinement undergone by the victims. The Committee felt that there should be a provision for payment of interest in the event of delayed payment of the compensation amount.

60. Some persons are put under arrest although the court is unable to find them guilty.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

61. All the other countries have this provision of paying such compensation in their Constitutions.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

62. Till now, no need of such compensation was ever felt by anyone.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

63. The Committee will not be influenced by anyone.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

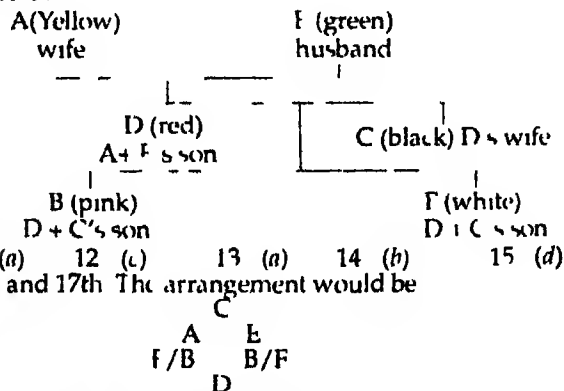
64. In cases of delay in payment, no interest is recommended on the amount of compensation.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (d) In all the others, there is gap of one letter only.
 2. (a) The gap among first letters is JHFDDB, i.e. one letter is missing in between in reverse order, second letters have gap of three, X, T, P, I, H and for the last letter the gap increases by one.
 3. (b) The letters occupy the same position from Z.
 4. (c) The letter would be 'M'.
 5. (c) 6. (d) 7. (d) 8. (c) They are 4.
 9. (c) 10. (c) They are 26.

Qs 11-15



16. (a) 17. (c) 18. (c) It is Mohan. 19. (c)
 20. (d) 1996 It is the leap-year. 21. (b) ON and OT
 22. (c) The arrangement would be ADBFC.

23. (a) 24. (b) 25. (e) 26. (d) 27. (c)

28. (e) 29. (d)

30. (b) This is the only 3 dimensional object among 2 dimensional figures.

31. (d) All the others are used for catching a creature.

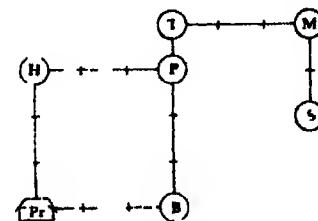
32. (c) All the others are forms of currency.

33. (c) This is the only gardener's tool among those of carpenters.

34 to 38 Sort out common letters in words and match them with common code letters.

34. (d) 35. (a) 36. (c) 37. (e) 38. (b)

39 to 43



39. (d) 40. (b) 41. (a) 42. (c) 43. (a)

The best way to answer the next set of questions is by drawing diagrams of all the probable relationships and then reaching the fool proof conclusion. Let each item be represented by a circle, irrespective of its size. Here are some examples.

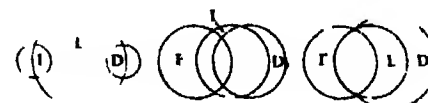
44. (b)



45. (d)



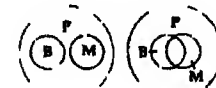
46. (c)



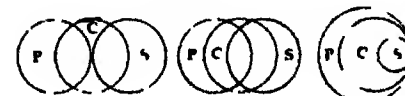
47. (c)



48. (a)



49. (c)



50. (a) as 44 51. (c) 52. (c) 53. (c)

54. (a) 55. (e) 56. (d) 57. (a) 58. (c)

59. (c) 60. (a) 61. (c) 62. (d) 63. (b)

64. (c)

Descriptive Questions

Oil Reserves in Bay of Bengal

Q. Suppose a huge oil reservoir is found in the Bay of Bengal. Suggest three consequences of it.

Ans. In a country like India where problems are daunting and prospects are promising, the sudden discovery of some natural gift like a huge oil reservoir anywhere in the country is a matter that should send cheers all around. Since oil as fuel and raw material is at the back of most economic development and income generation for all classes of people, its finding is propitious both for the people and the economy of the country. If some of the Gulf and African countries have amassed wealth and improved the living standards of their peoples, the credit goes to the huge oil reservoirs.

Undoubtedly, the finding of oil reserves in the Bay of Bengal would give an impetus to the sagging or slow economy of the State's sharing the shores of the sea. The establishment of refineries or gas cracker plants, as the case may be, would make a lot of difference to the lives of the people. With the generation of employment and power, the chronic problems of poverty and power-shortage would be solved to a considerable extent. With the opening of new avenues of gainful employment to the people of the affected areas, the resultant increase in their purchasing power would encourage faster industrialisation and capital inflow. A number of new industries, both in the big and small sectors, can be started when fuel and power are in plenty.

The scarce foreign exchange that the country has been spending on oil and other petroleum products imports, would be saved and thus used in the import of high technology and such other sophisticated and upto-date machinery as are the *sine qua non* of globalisation. Ever since the 'oil crisis' in the sixties and its prohibi-

tive prices, countries like India have to part with a major chunk of their foreign exchange earnings towards importing crude oil. With the discovery of oil reservoirs in the Bay of Bengal, the pressure on oil imports would come down and consequently the foreign exchange thus saved could be used to making payment of foreign loans and their interest.

Regional economic imbalances within the country would be reduced with rapid industrialisation of backward areas that have remained neglected or under developed due to some natural or man-made constraints. We are short of fuel and power but with the additional oil reservoirs falling into our lap, not only the States falling within the waters of Bay of Bengal but also the national economy would register faster and higher growth.

Posting officials in rural areas

Q. Why officials do not want to serve in rural areas? Suggest three measures to boost their efficiency and also how they may be persuaded to stay there.

Ans. Officials, both technical as well as general, avoid going to the countryside and the reasons for this attitude are not far to seek. It goes without saying that unless officials are persuaded or motivated to serve in the rural areas, all plans and programmes to improve rural life would remain half-baked attempts in this direction. The comforts and conveniences of urban life are some of the important factors that dissuade or prevent officials from opting for the rural areas. To blame or penalise some of the officials for shirking to work in the villages would amount to evading the real causes that deter the officials to serve in the rural areas. For obvious reasons, officials are reluctant to serve in villages and any amount of coercion or compulsion to make them stay

there would only mean taking the horse to the well but failing to make it drink water. In order to change the working milieu in villages and enable officials to serve and stay there willingly and efficiently, the following measures can prove quite effective and productive.

Before asking or ordering the officials (public servants) to go to the rural areas and implement poverty alleviation cum development programmes of the government, it is incumbent on the State or Central government to make the places of their posting worth living. Unlike the urban areas where people make houses to give on rent, the country side (with a few exceptions) does not offer any such facility. Therefore, as in the urban areas where government houses are allotted to public servants, a sufficient number of such houses should be constructed in the villages also. Besides houses, social services sectors like proper drainage, sanitation and roads, health care centres and model schools, communications and transport, and the like should also receive immediate and urgent attention.

Since money makes the mare go, it is in the fitness of things that such officials who offer themselves to serve in the rural areas, be given tangible monetary benefits over and above their salaries or wages. Unless we offer extra or additional incentives to willing workers to work under inconvenient conditions, no amount of preaching or patriotism would produce any worth-while results.

Last but not least is the recruitment or selection of candidate exclusively for the rural areas. Just as the managements of Rural (Gramin) Banks or other agencies have for their programmes purely rural-based officials, a rural cadre should be floated exclusively to be posted only in rural areas.

Pending cases in Courts

Q. Indian Courts are teeming with pending cases. Do you think by adopting certain steps their work load can be reduced? What are these steps? Suggest at least three.

Ans. "Justice delayed is justice denied." The better truth of this proverb reveals itself in the Indian Courts, from the lowest to the highest, where pending cases running into lakhs cry for justice. In order to rectify the sinister situation that has come to stay, the following steps can be taken:

The first and foremost step in this direction should be in the nature of filling up all vacant posts of judges in various High Courts, lower Courts and the like. Further, additional judges or special courts may be appointed or set up to try those pending cases that have become more than ten or more years old and where the witnesses or evidence may have become extinct or doubtful. If need be, certain provisions of the Indian Police Act and Indian Penal Code, that hamper the speedy disposal of cases in courts, may be repealed or suitably amended in accordance with the requirements, nuances and nature of crimes in the present day context. Minor crimes like thefts, street brawls, trespassing, eve-teasing and the like, for which the under-trials have been languishing in jails for long, should be taken off from the purview of courts and handed over to some other agency headed by a judicial officer, specifically created for this purpose.

The need of the hour is to evolve an alternative dispute redressal or settlement mechanism so that the number of cases pending in regular courts is drastically brought down and an improvement in the quality of justice accompanied by quick disposal of cases is achieved. The establishment of Lok Adalats or People's Courts have done a commendable job in mitigating the sufferings of the affected people. Although our judicial system is independent and credible but very little attention seems to have been paid to create complementary and supplementary mechanisms for resolving the cases outside the courts.

The practice followed in advanced countries has to be followed here. Whereas in India 75 per cent of the cases reach the trial courts, the percentage of such cases ranges between seven to ten in advanced countries.

Besides the pivotal role of Lok Adalats in the dispensation of quick and fair justice, conciliation or settlement of disputes can be entrusted to the Village Panchayats as was the practice in the past. In order to overcome the objection that all Panches may not be familiar with the complexities of law, the help of retired judicial officers or legal experts can be sought on humanitarian grounds. We have many conscientious and considerate persons in our midst who would love to offer their services in this noble cause.

Criminalisation of Indian politics

Q. Write a short note on criminalisation of Indian politics; how criminals can be prevented to enter politics. Suggest three remedies.

Ans. There is no denying the fact that an enemy within the ranks is much more dangerous than the enemy on the opposing side. Gone are the days when the likes of Gandhi, Nehru and Patel used to set the national agenda for consideration and concrete action. Now it is the goons and gangsters that have come to occupy the centre stage. It is not only the criminal politicised but also the politics criminalised that has vitiated the entire socio-economic-political atmosphere. Although the full contents of the Vohra Committee report have not been made public, whatever information has come in trickles is enough to send a chilling sensation down the spine. Just as no tiger is vegetarian, in the same vein, no political party in India seems to be free from the influence—even membership of criminals—of anti-social elements. The way these persons violate the laws of the land, with impunity or with political patronage, is to be seen and suffered. At some point of its findings and observations, the Vohra Committee report says: "CBI has reported that all over India crime syndicates have become a law unto themselves."

They have established linkages with government functionaries and political leaders to be able to operate with full freedom, as the political clout of Memon brothers, Dawood Ibrahim and their ilk illustrates. Criminals in the garb of Robin Hoods may succeed in hoodwinking their beneficiaries and earn their gratitude, even their votes, but not the perceptions of those who have been entrusted with the sacred task of running the government in accordance with the dictates of the Constitution.

It is time to sit together and ponder over the seriousness of the problem that the nagging nexus between criminals and politicians has created for the majority, who are, by and large, fed up with the hold of criminals. The malady has assumed diabolical dimensions and the remedy to checkmate the spreading cancer lies with the political parties themselves. Of their own, they should not accept any support or sustenance from the criminals, either in cash or in kind. For this purpose, the accounts of all political parties should be audited by the Election Commission. Even the Apex Court has desired that all political parties render accounts of the contributions and donations received by them.

Membership of all political to those with a criminal record should be denied and under no circumstances anti-social elements or their proteges be given tickets at the time of elections. They should not be allowed to contest even as independents unless they have been cleared of all criminal charges or anti-national activities by the court. Even those against whom criminal cases are pending in the courts should be debarred from contesting elections to any elected body.

Since 'charity begins at home', all political parties should make concerted and conscious efforts to weed out criminal elements from their ranks. For short-term gains, they should not allow the criminals to run a mock and hold the State to ransom. Just as the place of a wild animal is the zoo, the place of a criminal is behind the bars. The criminal has had enough of the benevolence of the State power.

February: Before and After Independence

Before independence

February has been quite an eventful months in our pre-independence history. The month registered a wide range of events like *Bina Das's firing at Governor Jackson in the Calcutta University Convocation; execution of Sohan Lal Pathak in Mandalay; reporting of Raman's effect; inauguration of New Delhi and opening of Anti-Award Conference in New Delhi.*

We shall focus on some of the events under four major headings:

i) Chauri Chaura

Following the Bardoli resolution, Mahatma Gandhi before starting the *Satyagrah* wrote to the Viceroy on February 1, 1922 and the movement spread deep among masses and developed with a lot of regional variations. However, on February 4, 1922, at Chauri Chaura (Gorakhpur) an angry mob burnt police station as also burnt to death over 20 policemen. This incident convinced Gandhiji that the nation was not ready for the non-violent movement and he on February 8, 1922 took the decision to suspend the *Satyagrah* and informed the members of Working Committee about it. Subsequently on February 11, 1922 the Working Committee endorsed the decision of Gandhiji and on the next day Mahatma Gandhi started 5-day fast to penance on the Chauri Chaura incidence. Later the AICC on February 25, 1922 while endorsing the decision to postpone *satyagrah* permitted individual *Satyagrah*.

ii) Subhash Chander Bose

It was on February 19, 1938 that Subhash Chander Bose (at Haripur, Gujarat) delivered his first address as the President. Interestingly it was also on February 19 (1942) that Subhash Chander Bose made his first broadcast to the World over Azad Hind Radio.

Notably, the 'Bose-Gandhi rift' also came on the surface in February. Subsequent to Bose's re-election as Congress President against Gandhiji's favourite Dr. Sitaramayya, on February 22, 1939 Gandhiji advised the Working Committee 'to resign if they did not agree with Bose' and 13 out of 15 members resigned on February 26.

iii) Indian Naval Ratings

The simmering discontent against bad food and racial discrimination amongst naval ratings surfaced predominantly on February 18, 1946 when 1100 naval ratings of HMIS *Talwar* revolted in Bombay. On February 20, 1946 large scale demonstrations were held against 'Colour Discrimination' in Bombay and on February 21, 1946 a regular warfare took place between Indian Naval Ratings and British Soldiers at Bombay. Finally on February 22, 1946, on the advice of Sardar Patel, Indian Naval Ratings decided to surrender unconditionally.

iv) Congress

Besides registering the rift between 'Bose and Gandhi', February has been an eventful month for the Congress. For instance, on February 19, 1932 Morarji Desai resigned as Deputy Collector and became Secretary of Gujarat Congress Committee; in 1938 following the overruling by the Governor of Chief Minister's orders to release political prisoners, all Ministers in Bihar and UP resigned on February 15; and on February 8, 1942, Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan resigned from the Congress Working Committee.

After Independence

In this section we shall focus on the 'Congress' and 'Cricket' as both are set for 'their respective Championships'

viz., General Elections and World Cup.

Congress

In February (1952) while Mira Behn broke her 4-year old silence to say, "Congress which followed Gandhiji to attain independence, deserted the path of its teacher-guide no sooner than the freedom has been attained", Congress registered a convincing victory in the first General Elections with Jawahar Lal Nehru being declared elected on February 13, 1952 from the Allahabad. February 2 has been a date of some great coincidences for the Congress. While on February 2, 1959 Indra Gandhi was unanimously elected President of the Indian National Congress, on February 2, 1983 Rajiv Gandhi was unanimously elected General Secretary of the Congress (I). Further on February 27, 1992 P.V. Narasimha Rao was elected Congress President in the Party polls which were held after 20 years

Cricket

With Mohammed Azharuddin leading India for the 6th World Cup it is interesting to have a glance at Azhar's February. Well Mohammed Azharuddin, was born at Hyderabad on February 8, 1963. On February 1, 1985 at Kanpur, while playing against England, Azharuddin became the first man to hit a century in each of his first three Tests. And as Captain, Azhar at Calcutta led India to victory over England after a gap of about 7 years (February 2, 1993) and thereafter defeating England at Madras won the rubber after 6 years (February 12, 1993). Further in February, 1994 while leading India against Sri Lanka to an unprecedented series win marked by all innings defeat's, strengthened his positions as the most successful captain of India.

DEBATE; DISCUSSION

Holding Democracy to Ransom

Scandals are no novelty in government. As long as we have corrupt ministers, scandals will continue to be exposed with regularity. But questions arise about the role of the Opposition. Should it stick to legitimate parliamentary activities and hope that the government will come out with the truth? Or should it force the government to stop functioning, as it did recently in the telecommunications scandal? As the nation watched, the proceedings of the two Houses were stalled for the winter session, the first time in history. If the conservative estimates of running the Parliament—Rs 1,54,200 per hour—are right, the nation lost a sizeable sum in the process, all to borne by the ordinary citizen. In this issue we debate whether it is right to hold up Parliament in this way, and whether there are any other methods of forcing an unresponsive government to come out with the truth on scandals.

Mr A We have faced a unique spectacle recently that the upper and lower Houses of Parliament were unable to transact any business for the entire winter session. The stalemate resulted over the controversial basic telecom services licensing. The Opposition parties did a good job in forcing the Narasimha Rao government to come out with facts pertaining to the deal. But to continue with the agitation and prolong the state of impasse and to upset the legislative business, is hardly a good strategy. The nation pays a heavy price for holding Parliament. It is wrong that this money should be wasted in a flippant manner. The loss incurred during the period when no legislative gets transacted for days on end is therefore huge. We can say that

adjournment motions and walkouts are legitimate parliamentary activities in a democracy, but there has to be a limit to these since it is the common man who bears the brunt of public expenditure. If there are empty benches in Parliament, the cause of democracy is not served.

Mr B We should not be unnecessarily worried about empty benches in either House of Parliament. Our elected representatives in any case treat Parliament as a part time hobby. On many occasions when discussions were to take place on important national issues, even a quorum has not been possible. Many bills have been passed without considering all aspects simply because the members were not present. On many occasions even the Prime Minister has absented himself from Parliament. Every MP after election wants to make the best of the perks allotted to him that he takes to travelling and holidaying; ruling party members take off to foreign lands. When MPs themselves have a casual attitude, why worry about expenses? The huge cost of holding Parliament which few bother to attend is thus the cost of having democracy. I don't say it is a good thing, but what is the solution? I would say that Parliament has become defunct and our institutions have degenerated because of the careless attitude of our leaders.

Mr C I agree with you. The political leadership of the country must set an example to its people how to work. With what face or moral right will our parliamentarians ask people to work when they do not do it themselves? We

have recently seen several bank strikes, a debilitating postal go-slow and workers threatening to go on strikes. The government has been unable to solve these matters because it does not have the face to negotiate with unions. The honourable members hinder Parliament functioning but do not fail collect their daily allowances and return to their subsidised official accommodation; in many cases they do not even pay the subsidised rent. They make telephone calls at the tax-payer's expense. With so many perks, why bother about the fact that any business gets done or not? In fact, the Opposition should be forcing the government to do its work. When there are few members present, it should castigate the ruling party. Similarly, if the government is unable to get a quorum on important issues, the Opposition should ensure that they are brought to question. Instead, it acts much like the ruling party, treating Parliament as a club which merely helps them get privileges and perks.

Mr D But you cannot blame the Opposition alone. What is the Opposition to do if the government does not listen? Usually, the government refutes all charges when a scandal is brought up, as it did in the latest case where Communications Minister Sukh Ram allegedly favoured a relatively unknown company in his home State, Himachal Pradesh. The attempt is to hide the truth. If the Opposition sticks to parliamentary methods of protest, the government will never come out with the truth. Only when the ruling party felt the inconvenience of stopping of

Parliament did the government come out with the files relating to the case. Thus, though politics of coercion are bad, the Opposition is left with no option but to make a nuisance of itself. Gentlemanly protests achieve nothing in our society. Those in power are arrogant and have little regard for democratic opinion. Protests should therefore be violent and cause inconvenience. Only then will the government listen and be forced to come out with the truth. The prolonged confrontation cannot be said to be a total waste. The telecommunications scandal has reached the people. Now it is upto the government to show the people that there was nothing objectionable in awarding the contracts. If it still does not show it, I would say the Opposition did a fine job of exposing the government.

Mr E But how would you justify holding up of the government business for an issue of corruption? This time almost the entire session of Parliament has gone to waste. Though some bills were passed, many others were held up during the period. On many important matters the government just could not act. In terms of money, more than 170 hours have been lost, that's a loss of at least Rs 2.62 crores. And for what? Merely for the Opposition demand of a parliamentary committee to look into the scandal? What have the parliamentary committees achieved when they have been appointed? So far as bringing the scandal to public notice is concerned, the Opposition cannot be faulted, but having examined the files relating to the deal it should either say what was objectionable in the deal or allow the functioning of the government. Unfortunately, every party has its eyes on the next elections and want to keep the issue alive irrespective of the cost to the nation. That's a very high cost of political opportunism.

Mr C At the same time, I think it would be wrong to blame the Opposition for the loss. It is the government

that has messed up time and again in the awarding of business contracts. Incompetent ministers have been chosen, some of whom are known to be corrupt. In the present case, it is too much of a coincidence that an unknown company from the minister's home state is unduly favoured. The government should ensure transparency in the awarding of commercial contracts so that every deal does not look shady. The government, however, does not learn its lessons. From Bofors to the sugar scandal, from Enron to the securities scam, an impression is created that large sums of money were paid to the ministers concerned. In each case, it is undue secrecy that gives rise to this impression. Surely the government can adopt an open system so that such questions do not arise at all. What I am saying is nothing new; in many countries an ordinary citizen can obtain information about decisions taken by the government. In India, the Official Secrets Act is misused to protect incompetent ministers.

Mr A Another thing that needs to be done is that anybody stalling the process of government should be personally held liable for damages. For instance, if in the telecommunications scandal the minister is found to be in the wrong, he should be personally liable for loss to the nation; otherwise the Opposition should make good the loss. This will make people very careful when they start these kind of campaigns. The issue of corruption can also be solved if personal liability is introduced. Now, when a minister is caught he is simply removed. So there is no fear among ministers about corruption. A personal liability will make a minister extra careful and transparency of deals will be automatically introduced.

Mr B That indeed is a very good suggestion. But should an issue like this arise in the future, the Opposition

parties should have some recourse. The ruling party will of course not take action unless a nuisance is created. So what should be done? Violent methods will push us into anarchy. I think that Gandhian methods of non-cooperation are the answer. Without stalling work on important bills, the Opposition parties can refuse to cooperate with the government on other matters. Only then will they be seen to be behaving responsibly. The question is: do we have leaders who are mature enough to act responsibly? From what we see, our leaders have their sight on the next election only and do not care about ordinary people. When personal liability is introduced, it will force the leaders to behave responsibly. I also agree with you that the Official Secrets Act is often misused and needs to be scrapped, except in matters of national security.

Mr D One thing on which there is agreement is that Parliament should not turn into a boxing ring for petty political matters. Our leaders have unfortunately treated it as a free-for-all. Democracy cannot be served by stopping Parliament's activities, as has been done recently on the telecommunications scandal. However, the question arises as to what the government should do when the government is not forthcoming on facts relating to scandals. Some important conclusions have emerged, such as transparency in government functioning and making the members personally liable for losses incurred during such agitations. If all this is done, chances are that scandals may not arise at all. But the control of corruption should be high on the national agenda. The Opposition will serve the country better if it helps in creating transparent systems rather than pick on individual issues. However, there is indication that neither the Opposition or the ruling party has a long term perspective of things. That is the real misfortune of our country.

PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT

Cultivate Skill in Writing

When the famed poet Shelley said, "Poets (read writers) are the unacknowledged legislators of the world", he was paying a befitting tribute to the people who transform the world through the word.

Jawaharlal Nehru made a name for himself as a seasoned politician but it was said of him that he would have made a bigger dent on the minds of the people as a writer.

The power of the printed word is a known and acknowledged phenomenon. "I read it in a book", is often used as a clincher in an undecided argument. Herbert Drucker has written a book "Communication is Power".

It indeed is! But those aspiring to go up the slippery pole of success in competitions of life, often blink away its importance. They either are 'innocent' of its importance, or worse, think that it comes naturally.

Get down to the business of writing and see the improvement in your overall personality.

The ability to communicate clearly in writing is one of the most important skills you will ever master. It will help you to get your ideas across effectively and to get the results you want in your business and personal life. There is no mystery to good writing—it is a skill you can learn.

There are a few executives who have rare kind of secretary who can take care of all sorts of correspondence with no more than a quick memorandum to work from. But for most of us, if there is any writing to be done, we have to do it ourselves.

We have to write papers (book reports, term papers, college applications), business papers (memos, reports, letters of inquiry, letters of adjustment), home papers, invitations etc.

We are constantly called on to put words to paper. It would be difficult to count the number of such words, messages, letters, and reports put into the mails or

delivered by hand, but the daily figure must be enormous.

Be brief

"THAT writer does the most, who gives the reader the most information, and takes from him the least time", wrote Charles C. Colton. This is an observation which everyone who writes should commit to heart, an observation to post above the desk of every businessman who dictates a memo, of every housewife who pens a letter, and of every student who writes out a term-paper.

The purpose of writing is to communicate: a thought, an idea, a sentiment, a fact. The more concrete and concise these elements in a communication, the more precise, the more rewarding they are to the reader.

"Brevity is the soul of wit", said Shakespeare. This maxim warrants remembering, along with Mr Colton's admonition, that we demand the least time from our readers.

Clear and Complete

ON the other hand, nothing can be more irritating and sometimes frustrating than the omission of essential detail. Suppose, for example, the shirts you manufacture come in several styles, colours and sizes, but the order you have received in the mail gives no specifications. Or you are driving to visit a friend in the country and you come to a fork in a country lane; you consult the map he has sent you and he has omitted both the fork and the road you are to take.

Someone writes down a telephone message from your out-of-town friends, telling you they're going to be in the city and will drop in to see you; but the message contains no date, no time and nothing to indicate whether they are coming

alone or with their children. And there are the instructions for setting up your hi-fi tape recorder which take for granted that you know what a "patch cord" is.

There is virtue in brevity, but you must never assume that your reader is as expert or as knowledgeable as you are about whatever it is you are writing. Brevity is not an excuse for lack of clarity. And clarity, above all, is essential to what you have to say on paper.

Certainly you want to avoid stiffness and rigidity in your writing (even when you send off an angry letter to the manager of your local cinema). At the same time, you wouldn't write a report on the market conditions in the "chummy" manner of a letter to a cousin or a college roommate who has just become president of an organization.

Lively Language

THERE has been more pretentious nonsense written and spoken about style than about any other literary subject. As a result, half the unpractised writers assume an unnatural pomposity when they settle down to composition, three-eighths of them are intimidated, and only the one-eighth left over are independent enough to forget about style and write naturally.

Just as you have your own way of wearing your clothes or drinking soup, so you have your own individual way of expressing yourself.

This does not mean that your natural way cannot be improved. Just as it is kind to tell a man who sucks up his soup noisily that his social acceptability will be enhanced by applying the silencer, so it is necessary for an inexperienced writer to be told what errors or ill-manners in writing to avoid.

Any writing interlarded plentifully with "goshes" and dashes and exclamation marks, for example, grates on the

reader, and is therefore bad manners.

Any writing in which nouns are habitually qualified by two or more adjectives is too wordy and unlikely to express any meaning with precision.

There are certain basic rules of good writing which are almost universal in their application, and within the framework of which it is possible for writers of the most diverse gifts and styles to express themselves with individuality.

The main five rules are: Prefer the short word to the long; Prefer the concrete word to the abstract word; Prefer the Saxon word to the Romance; Prefer the short sentence to the long; Use no word which does not directly contribute towards the sense you wish to convey.

Prefer the short word to the long: The short word is generally better because it expresses your meaning more quickly and certainly.

A deliberate search for short words leads to inciseness in writing. How much better to say: "I couldn't come because it was raining", than "My attendance was rendered impossible by adverse meteorological conditions."

Prefer the concrete word to the abstract word: In most writing it is possible to choose between concrete and abstract words. If you are writing about ideas, which are abstractions, you naturally have to use abstract words, but there is a deplorable tendency among many people to use vague abstract words where short concrete words would be better.

Prefer the Saxon word to the Romance: The Saxon word is what is bred in the bone; it is racy, idiomatic and direct.

The Romance word is the genteelism assumed by Frenchified Englishmen. But good English writers still prefer, "wood" to "timber", "sail" to "navigate", "walk" to "ambulate", "sickness" to "invalidity".

The English language has been immensely enriched by words from other languages, and it would be both impracticable and foolish to hamstring your writing by turning a recommendation into a hard and fast rule. Use your commonsense—but avoid pretentions.

Prefer the short sentence to the long: Here again commonsense must be used. A succession of short sentences can be choppy. A succession of long sentences sends your readers to sleep. The best arrangement is a nice balance of short and long sentences, with a general preference for the short.

Use no word that does not directly contribute towards the sense: It is astonishing how many "passenger" words you will find in print. They contribute heavily to dullness. A good writer is like a marksman: he fires one shot from his rifle and hits the mark, or near it. The indifferent writer blazes away both barrels of a shot-gun, hoping that the "spread" will make up for his lack of accuracy.

In short, know what you want to say, and say it in the fewest words than can be used without baldness. The voluble are seldom really articulate. Precision of meaning is lost in the verbiage.

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Loss of Biodiversity and Conservation Efforts

The earth and its diversity are dynamic and ever changing. As such extinction of species is a natural phenomena. Fossil record reveals that all species have a definite life span. However, the cause of concern is the rate at which species are becoming extinct today, as compared to earlier undisturbed state.

Loss of diversity and its causes: It has been estimated that in earlier times, the rate of extinction, in general, through natural evolution was just one species over a span of 60-70 years—400 years for mammal species and 200 years for bird species.

According to the IUCN Red data book, the following is a broad list of threatened animals:

Mammals	507 species
Birds	1029
Reptiles	169
Amphibians	57
Fish	713
Insects	1093
Molluses	409
Corals & sponges	154
Annelid worms	139
Crustaceans	126

The situation as regard to plants is even worse. Over 60,000 species may become extinct by the middle of the next century.

The causes for loss of species are complex and varied and prominent among those could be listed as follows:

1. Modification, degradation and loss of habitats due to colonization and clearing of forest areas for settlement or agricultural expansion, commercial lodgings, large hydel schemes, fire, human and livestock pressure etc. These not only accelerate the rate of extinction of species but

threaten wide range of plants and invertebrates and vertebrates due to break up in their distribution pattern, rendering them into smaller isolated sub-population.

2. Over-exploitation, mainly for commercial (and often illegal) purposes—meat, fur, hides, body organs, medicinal etc.

3. Accidental or deliberate introduction of exotic species which can threaten native flora and fauna directly by predation or by competition and also indirectly by altering the natural habitat or introducing diseases.

4. Pollution (both air and water) stresses ecosystem; mismanagement of industrial and agriculture wastes threatens both terrestrial and aquatic ecosystem.

5. Global warming: during the next century the global surface temperature is expected to increase by 2° to 6°C unless green house gas emissions are reduced immediately. In such situations regions of suitable climate for given species will shift, putting pressure on species with regard to their adaptability/tolerance, thus making them vulnerable to extinction.

6. Improper use of agro-chemicals and pesticides, a rapidly growing human population, inequitable land distribution and economic and political policies and constraints.

Saving Biodiversity

In order to retain the capabilities of life supporting systems it is essential to save and maintain species and ecosystems. Efforts have been made to save

biodiversity both by ex-situ and in-situ conservation.

Ex-situ conservation: It refers to conservation of species in suitable locations outside their natural habitat. The need to conserve a species ex-situ arise when its population is so fragile or fragmented that its survival in wild may no longer be possible.

In-situ conservation: The preservation of species in its natural eco-system is called in-situ conservation. It is being done by declaring the area as "protected area" with emphasis either to save the entire area or an endangered species. As a consequence, protected areas are being identified and maintained for natural conservation of species by individual countries in the world. In Indian context, we have protected area network of biospheres, national parks and sanctuaries, with objective to save entire specified area.

A brief note on each type of protected area in Indian context is as follows:

Biosphere Reserves: A biosphere reserve has two distinguished zones—core zone and buffer zone. The internal area or the core zone of biosphere reserve is simply protected as such with almost no or very little human interference (R & D permitted), whereas buffer zone are open for research, education, tourism, sustainable agriculture, beneficial and ecological sound development programmes.

The core Advisory Group of experts constituted in 1979 by Indian National Man and Biosphere Committee identified 14 potential sites based on UNESCO guidelines which could be designated as Biosphere Reserves. These cover as many as 9 out of 12 identified bio-geographic regions.

Biosphere Reserves and their areas

S.No.	State	Potential Biosphere Reserve sites	Year of setting up of Biosphere Reserve	Total Area (sq Km)
1.	Tamil Nadu, Karnataka & Kerala	Nilgiri	1986	5,520
2.	Uttar Pradesh	Nanda Devi	1988	2,000
3.	Meghalaya	Nokrek	1988	80
4.	Andaman & Nicobar	Great Nicobar	1989	1,375
5.	Tamil Nadu	Gulf of Mannar	1989	10,500
6.	Assam	Manas	1989	700
7.	West Bengal	Sunderban	1989	9,630
8.	Orissa	Simulipal	1994	1,431
9.	Arunachal Pradesh	Namdapha	-	-
10.	Uttar Pradesh	Uttarakhand	-	-
11.	Assam	Kaziranga	-	-
12.	Rajasthan	Thar Desert	-	-
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Kanha	-	-
14.	Gujarat	Rann of Kutch	-	-

Wildlife Institute of India has recently undertaken an exercise to review bio-geographic zone and have put forward ten bio-geographic zones for India. These zones are:

1. Trans Himalaya (Ladakh)
2. Himalayas
3. Desert
4. Semi Area
5. Western Ghats
6. Deccan Peninsula
7. Gangetic Plains
8. Coast
9. North-East
10. Island

National Parks and Sanctuaries: Our country has a good network of protected areas under the category of National Parks and Sanctuaries. At present, we have 75 national parks and 421 sanctuaries covering about 14.07 million hectare area which is over 4% of the total geographical area of the country. Similar to core area of biosphere reserve, the biotic interference and tourism activity are not allowed in national park areas whereas we can have

biotic interference and tourism activities to certain extent in sanctuary area

Conservation of biodiversity at International level

Conservation of biodiversity has always been a subject of importance at international level. The international conventions such as **Ramsar Convention** on wetlands (1981), **World Heritage Convention** and recent convention on Biological Diversity held at Rio de Janeiro in Brazil in June, 1992 are of much significance to accelerate conservation.

Six internationally significant wetlands of India have been declared as Ramsar sites under the Ramsar Convention (1981). These are Harike (Punjab), Wullar (J & K), Loktak (Manipur), Keoladeo (Rajasthan), Chilka (Orissa) and Sambhar (Rajasthan).

Under the World Heritage Convention, five natural sites have been declared

as world heritage sites. These are: Kaziranga National Park (Assam), Manas Wildlife Sanctuary (Assam), Sunderbans National Park (West Bengal), Nanda Devi National Park (Uttar Pradesh) and Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan).

The convention on Biological Diversity, which has been signed by 171 countries, including India, entered into force with effect from December, 29, 1993. Some of the salient features, the importance of which this Convention recognises, are as follows

—The intrinsic value of biological diversity

—The sovereign rights of States over their biological resources.

—The fundamental requirement of in-situ conservation of ecosystems and natural habitats

—The supporting role of ex-situ measures

—The vital role of local communities and women in the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity

—The desirability of sharing equitably the benefits arising from the use of traditional knowledge, skills, innovations and practices

—The importance of and the need to promote regional and global cooperation for conservation, and

—The requirement of substantial investments to conserve biological diversity

—Facilitation of access to genetic resources on mutually agreed terms and with prior informed consent of the country providing these, with a commitment on the recipient country to share in the benefits of utilising the resource thus provided.

—Transfer of relevant technologies, including biotechnology, on fair and most favourable terms, from the developed to the developing nations, who are the main providers of genetic resources.

—To facilitate access to and transfer of such technologies developed by public sector.

The Examiner's Guess Questions

Q. Where was the Festival of India held recently?

Ans. Bangkok in Thailand.

Q. What is the name of the women's body formed to carry forward the mandate from Beijing and ensure that the government policy reflects the concern of grassroot women?

Ans. National Alliance of Women (NAWO). Ruth Manorama of Women's Voice, Bangalore is its chairperson.

Q. Where have rich resources of gold, minerals and semi precious stones been found recently by the Geological Survey of India?

Ans. Attapady in Kerala's Palakaad district.

Q. What is the new name of Pollution Control Boards?

Ans. Environment Protection Authorities

Q. What is the name of Khushwant Singh's autobiography? Why has it been banned?

Ans. "Truth, Love and a Little Malice". It has been banned by the court on Maneka Gandhi's petition that it contains statements defamatory to her and her family.

Q. What are the names of the awards that the Supreme Court has held constitutionally valid?

Ans. Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibushan, Padma Bhushan and Padmashri. They are given by the President on the eve of the Republic Day.

Q. What is the name of the future single currency of Europe as agreed by European Union leaders?

Ans. Euro. It will be launched on January 1, 1999.

Q. Who is the chairman of the National Highway Authority of India?

Ans. Yogendra Narain.

Q. Which day was termed as International Day of Disabled Persons?

Ans. December 3, 1995.

Q. Which day will be observed as Vijay Diwas every year?

Ans. December 16.

Q. Who has been chosen as chairman of the WTO council for trade in goods for 1996?

Ans. India's ambassador to the WTO, S Narayanan.

Q. What is the name of the mascot for the Wills World Cup Cricket to be held from February 11 to March 17?

Ans. Goodly.

Q. Which committee is enquiring into Rajan Pillai's death?

Ans. The Lila Seth committee.

Q. The control of which city was passed from Israel to Palestine recently?

Ans. Bethlehem.

Q. Which country is the largest consumer of gold in the world?

Ans. India. Demand for gold escalated to 500 tonnes, an increase of 21 per cent from the 1995 level of 415 tonnes. The price of gold climbed to a high of Rs 5100 per 10 gm on November 10, breaking the record of Rs 5080 on January 19, 1992.

Q. Name the world's oldest daily which was sold recently.

Ans. Lloyd's List, the world's oldest daily in English, was sold for \$82.5 million (about Rs 45 crore). Founded in 1734, the paper is known as the anchor of international shipping scene.

Q. What is 'Baffle Range'? Where has

it been set up?

Ans. 'Baffle Range' is a new small arms firing range set up at the Infantry School in Mhow (Madhya Pradesh). It has been designed by Terminal Ballistics Research Laboratory (TBRL), Chandigarh.

'Baffle Walls' are made to arrest ground ricochets and free flight bullets that may escape from the range. This novel type of range is most suitable for cantonments in metropolitan areas where land availability is limited.

Q. Where is the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) being held?

Ans. New Delhi. The 27th International Film Festival has reintroduced the competition section and is open only to women, especially those from Asia. It will also focus on Iran as a country.

Q. Which institute has been included in the Guinness Book of World Records for having the highest number of students?

Ans. The National Institute of Information Technology (NIIT). It is now a Rs 93 crore venture employing 2000 persons and training 90,000 students every year in computer education through 150 centres in over 100 cities.

Q. In which city was the peace treaty among Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia signed?

Ans. Paris.

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Appointments Etc

APPOINTED; ELECTED ETC

Aleksander Kwasniewski: He has been sworn in as Poland's new President, succeeding Lech Walesa.

Lee Soo-sung: He has been appointed as the Prime Minister of South Korea.

Navin Ramgoolam: He has been appointed Prime Minister of Mauritius, to succeed Anerood Jugnauth.

Kamal el-Ganzoury: He has been named Prime Minister of Egypt.

Ahmed Ouyahia: He has been made Prime Minister of Algeria by President Liamine Zeroual, replacing Mr Mokdad Sifi.

V S Shekhawat: Chief of Naval Staff Admiral V S Shekhawat is the new chairman of Chiefs of Staff committee.

Lt Gen Jehangir Karamat: He has been appointed Pakistan's Chief of Army Staff to replace Gen Abdul Waheed, who has retired.

RESIGNED

Lee Hong-Koo: Prime Minister of South Korea who was sacked by the President Kim Young-Sam.

Tansu Ciller: Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller resigned after her conservative party lost elections.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

Enanoli Rakhmanov: Tajikistan President.

Levon Ter-Petrosian: Armenian President.

Leon Brittan: Vice President of the European Union.

Lee Kuan Yew: Singapore's senior minister

DEAD

Dean Martin: The easy going crooner who became a leading Hollywood entertainer, died in Los Angeles at the age of 78.

Romesh Mazumdar: Eminent scientist and academician.

EVENTS

DECEMBER

11—Fifty people are hurt in Bangladesh as Opposition activists clash with police at the end of a three-day strike aimed at holding general elections under a neutral caretaker government.

—The Supreme Court gives a historic verdict that the use of *Hinduism* and *Hindutva* in election speeches does not amount to seeking votes on the ground of religion.

13—UN General Assembly passes a resolution calling for immediate end to nuclear tests.

14—The Bosnian Peace Treaty signed in Paris by Presidents Alija Izet-Begovic of Bosnia, Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia and Franjo Tudjman of Croatia.

15—The Supreme Court declares the civilian awards of *Bharat Ratna*, *Padma Vibhushan*, *Padma Bhushan* and *Padmashri* as constitutionally valid.

16—The UN Security Council votes to authorise NATO to send troops to Bosnia, effectively closing the failed UN mission.

17—Elections take place in Russia and record

an unexpectedly high voter turnout.

18—The seventh South Asian Federation (SAF) games open in Madras.

20—NATO takes control of the failed UN mission to Bosnia and begins its gamble to end four years of war.

21—An American airlines passenger jet with 159 people on board crashes in a mountain region in Columbia.

22—Both Houses of Parliament in India are adjourned sine die having failed to resolve the 13-day deadlock between the Government and Opposition over the telecom contract controversy.

—Israeli troops quit Bethlehem and give control to Palestinians.

23—At least 300 people are killed and 400 injured in a fire that broke out in a tented compound during a school function in Dabwali town in Haryana.

—At least 132 people are killed in violence in South Africa's Zulu heartland.

28—Asian and Pacific nations condemn France over its fifth nuclear test; Australia, New Zealand and Japan call for immediate halt to testing.

—India's Remote Sensing satellite IRS-1C launched from Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.

30—Pakistan's religious parties warn Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto for being too liberal and go on strike to protest against government corruption and incompetence.

31—Air Chief Marshal S K Sareen takes over as the new Air Chief.

JANUARY

1—Violence claims 11 lives in Karachi.

4—Karnataka releases 5000 cusecs of water to Tamil Nadu as decided in an all-party meeting.

6—US President Bill Clinton signs a legislation to end the partial government shutdown.

—Terrorists massacre 15 persons in Barsala village of Jammu.

MILESTONES

Wei Jingsheng: Chinese dissident, regarded as father of China's pro-democracy movement, he has been sentenced to 14 years further imprisonment on charges of conspiring to overthrow the government.

Y C Deveshwar: Vice-chairman of ITC Ltd, who has been appointed Chairman of the company to succeed K L Chugh with effect from January 1, 1996.

S Narayan: India's ambassador to the WTO, who has been chosen as the chairman of the WTO council for trade in goods for 1996.

Amjad Ali: Sarod maestro Amjad Ali's composition *raag bhairavi* has been selected for the series of world's 50 best music compositions being brought out by a British compact disc company. He became the first Indian to feature in such a world series.

John Stewart Hillman and Shenkman Dascha: The two millionth tourists to India who were honoured upon their arrival in New Delhi.

Konrad Zuse: Credited with inventing the digital computer in Nazi-era Germany and a pioneer in developing programming languages, Zuse died in Berlin at the age of 85.

Chavi Madan: World's youngest long distance swimming record holder, 12-year-old Chavi Madan has created a world record by swimming the 17.5 km stretch from Spighton to Port Blair in 5 hours 35 minutes and 27 seconds.

Tabassum: Actress and one of India's first talk show host, Tabassum, 55, completed 50 years in the film industry.



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THE COMPETITION

MASTER

From the Desk of the

Editor



Dear Masters,

We wish we did not have to write this month's cover story on corruption. Yet, as events unfolded in the Jain Hawala case, we knew that we would be doing a disservice to our readers if we did not describe the phenomenon that threatens the very existence of our nation State. In the biggest exposure in the history of modern India, our leaders, irrespective of the party to which they belonged, united under a cloud. Suddenly, all other scandals were dwarfed.

It is not enough to say that our national prestige has suffered. Today, our values stand eroded and our institutions discredited. If the ministers themselves were linked to money flows which touched the Kashmir militants and those who masterminded the Bombay blasts, who or what are we to believe anymore?

With every tragedy also comes an opportunity to rectify our past mistakes. It is time to change laws relating to funding of elections, a system that encourages dirty money. It is time to make each politician publicly accountable for his personal assets and those of his family. As our cover story points out, these things have been done in other countries with success. Whether our polity is able to take the bitter medicine remains to be seen. But it has to do so sooner or later.

As always, we pack this issue with information and knowledge essential for your success. Do let us know what you think.

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Crisis of Governance

We are passing through a grim crisis of governance. National Security is insecure. There are periodic bomb blasts in various States. Even the capital is not out of bounds for the disruptionists of which there are many. Two Prime Ministers have been killed. Thousands of innocent citizens have lost their lives because the rulers cannot rule. They are examples of mis-governance. The Supreme Court has in recent weeks pulled up the Union government thrice reminding it of its unfitness and unwillingness to govern. The three cases pertain to the Cauvery Waters, the Election Commission and the Jain Commission. In all the three, the message to the government was clear and loud: lack of will to govern (passing problems on to the Supreme Court) is politics, not a question of legality.

The surge of judicial power, demand for performance rather than tall-talk, loss of moral authority and fragmenting political power have changed the definition of political leadership. The leadership has been knocked out of private deliberation and self-proclaimed wisdom. It has to act on the real stage now. Hence telegenicity is more important than the ability to govern! Irrespective of ability and personality, the 'leader' must be squeezed into television frame because that is now the instrument by which he must rule in a society of quickly-informed voters. This explains the Doordarshan's assault on viewers' sensibilities, projecting the PM as the new Messiah of the masses.

The electronic revolution is changing the way. Television is essential to rulers (however unfit to rule), because leaders are defined more by TV images than knowledge and experience. Rising aspirations of a good life, promoted by business interests (also on TV) demand that the government deliver the goods.

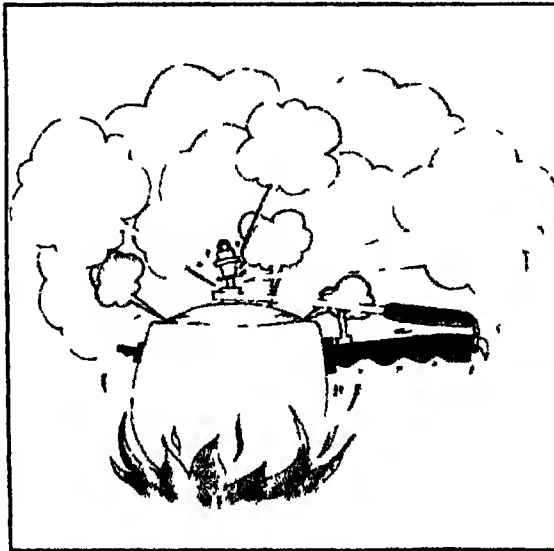
The government cannot. As a result, institutions break down. Alternatives are nowhere in sight. Disorder has thus become the order of the day!

The tempo of change has been turned on its head by the on-rush of communication technology. As a result, politicians have to operate the levers of power and public opinion to influence the masses. Unprincipled mass politics replaces traditional methods of approaching the voters. Social and political movement, and tension between soaring

desires and flagging fulfilment make political fakery a necessity.

Our society has entered the electronic age, loaded heavily with its own none too happy history, myths and experiments. Doordarshan, misusing its monopoly, had tried a similar publicity exercise to project Rajiv Gandhi. It only ended in getting unknown for it. Once again we hear the roar of the crowd, people power on the rise and the ruling elite on the retreat.

Tremendous fissures are developing in the social, economic and moral fibre of the society. All in all, the rush of new communication technology is



testing the very limits of social tolerance and adjustment. So, there is what William McNell calls 'a kind of race between the rational, disciplined cooperative potentialities of humankind, and the urge to destroy, which lurks in every human psyche'.

If the democratic urges of the people are not to be stifled and reason is to prevail over the urge to destroy, then knowledge must prevail over (mis)information and political wisdom take place of tele-emotion. Projection of grim reality is better than glamorous rainbows about the next century! Popular opinion eventually 'trespasses' into the cloistered and beafed-up-security-'castles' of the rulers.

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READERS' FORUM

The best two letters of the month, appearing in the box, have been awarded a prize of Rs 100.00 each. Readers are invited to send us their views on topics covered in this issue. The decision of the Editors will be final.

WHITHER DEMOCRACY?

It is only when we start appreciating honesty and integrity that we can hope to elect leaders with these qualities. This is essential for true democracy to take root.

Pravin Yadav
Pantnagar, U.P.

Like a coin, everything has two sides. You have only emphasised the negative aspect of democracy in our country.

G Ravi Kumar
Ponnamanda, A.P.

If democracy has to be cured, all of us must become conscious and alert.

Amit Singh
Renukoot, U.P.

Many people vote as if it was a game of fate. But with education, this attitude can change and help the masses choose leaders who are true custodians of democracy.

Amilava Chatterjee
Halisahar, West Bengal

CULTURE OF CORRUPTION

Corruption can be done away with by the voters themselves. We must vote against the corrupt leaders otherwise our life will keep degenerating.

Sunil Kumar
Gwalior, M.P.

While there is a nexus among wrongdoers, honest people have not come together. If honest people too formed a nexus, they could defeat the evil forces.

Avinash Kumar
Durgapur, West Bengal

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

The UN has been a spectator to violence, disturbances and ethnic struggle. It has remained an organisation for holding conferences and issuing public declara-

tions only.

Bishnu Ranjan Saikia
Sonitpur, Assam

International organisations have no future unless they stress on action rather than talk.

Dipti Chauhan
New Delhi

With the end of the cold war, the UN can devote itself to peace and campaign for social justice, equality and human rights.

Kamal Krishan Goyal
Faridabad, Haryana

INDIA AND THE CTBT

India needs to form a strategic stance to fight the discriminatory nature of the CTBT. But we cannot form a strategy till our leaders stop indulging in political gimmicks.

Aparnita Bhattacharjee
Midnapore, West Bengal

CINEMA AND WOMEN

Though women are exploited, the blame lies on the actresses who sign such roles and allow themselves to be exploited.

Narayan Hota
Ulunda, Orissa

Since people imitate movies, violent movies will have an effect on social behaviour. Thus social violence and cinema are intricately connected.

Maninder Singh Balh
Chandigarh

BEAUTY AND BRAINS

Beauty contests do not test any kind of intelligence. They are just body shows. The display of vital statistics cannot usher in humanity and compassion that are so glibly uttered in beauty contests.

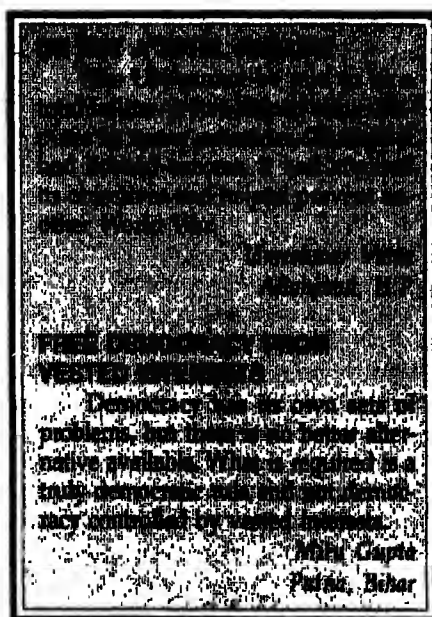
Vijay Singh
New Delhi

Beauty and brains was a balanced discussion and gave both sides of the argument. It helped us crystallise our ideas.

Charanjit Sachdeva
Bhawanigarh, Punjab

Beauty is good though not essential, while brains are necessary to help women rise from orthodoxy and poverty.

M Balaphani Chand
Hyderabad, A.P.



CM FEATURES

CM has really helped me in developing my personality. I was able to overcome my negative traits with its help.

Parninder Kumar
Patiala, Punjab

Your magazine provides not only information but guides youngsters to be successful in life.

K Raju
Arsikere, Karnataka

I find CM most useful for competitive exams. It is the only magazine that helps one realise one's ambition.

A Rabi Hussain
Aligarh, U.P.

Your personality development features are a great help.

Mahendra K Panda
Panchmarhi, M.P.

REQUEST TO READERS

May be you have appeared in some competitive exams recently. We shall be grateful if you could send us the question papers. All those sending the original question papers will be suitably compensated and the original papers will be returned.

—Editor

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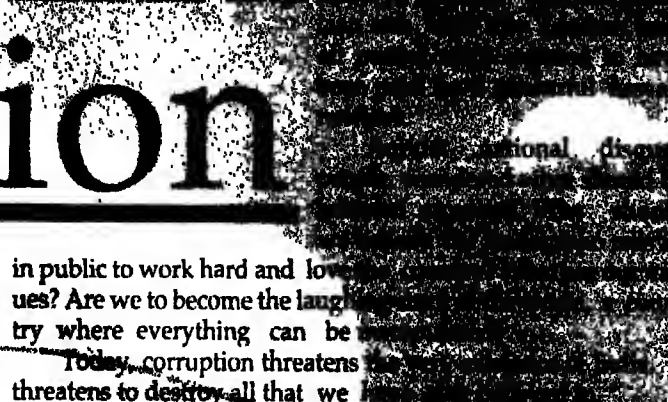
Selling the Nation

When a study ranked India as the third most corrupt country in the world, there was no sense of shame or remorse among the political elite of the country because taking money for favours seemed almost to be the right of the elected leaders. There was some relief, if only psychological, that there were two other countries ahead of us in the dubious list. Yet, when the Hawala allegations started coming to light, it began to seem that no other country could be as corrupt as ours.

Never before had the ruling class of any country been involved in such widespread bribery which was linked to professed enemies of the State. Never before, not even the despotic rulers of banana republics or the notorious dictators of some African countries, had sold their country in this fashion.

In other countries at least there is shame when such bribery comes to light. In Japan the public is given an apology and the indicted official may commit suicide if he has any honour. Widespread shame was felt when a scandal erupted in South Korea. In India, however, there was none of that.

Our cover story presents a comprehensive look at corruption. It reports how it has eaten into the very institutions that are supposed to protect democracy, describes the legal framework and explains the Hawaii scandal. Perhaps the latest scandal is an opportunity to set things right; our story looks at what can be done to restore morality.

[illegible]

ion

in public to work hard and love
ues? Are we to become the laugh
try where everything can be
Today, corruption threatens
threatens to destroy all that we

Redefining Corruption

We live in a society which generally recognizes corruption. In fact, it is so widespread that it has become an accepted part of life. It is a social evil which is a by-product of acceptance of illegal gratification for official action, or criminal abuse of power in the discharge of one's official duties. It includes unlawful use of public authority for private ends. It includes the use of public authority for unfair dealing. It also includes the abuse of public authority for private ends.

[illegible]

What has resulted is the total absence of any political culture. Trade unions have been destroyed in a culture where no government is accountable to the citizenry. Would the American people be gratified if they were to see the Communist Party in power in the United States?

Personal gratification too comes in many forms and is difficult to identify. Officers routinely misuse government vehicles and other facilities. In posh shopping areas all over the country, government vehicles are seen carrying the wives of officers, their children take these vehicles to their schools and colleges. It would be rare to find office peons not doing menial jobs in the homes of their officers.

An element of corruption is also present in doing jobs they shouldn't. Public sector organisations release advertisements in newspapers even though they have no product to sell. The Indian Airlines, a loss-making airline, spends several lakhs on an advertising campaign saying how good their services are at a time when their pilots are on strike and flights are being cancelled. Public sector organisations too spend on advertising when they have no brand to promote. Small magazines, run by friends and relatives of officers, manage to get most such advertisements even though nobody reads these magazines.

The Legal Framework

It is just as well that the Prevention of Corruption Act of 1947 gives no definition of corruption.

Corruption in India is sought to be controlled by (i) The Prevention of Corruption Act 1947, (ii) The Indian Penal Code, and (iii) The Representation of People Act, 1950.

The first mentions five kinds of acts which consti-



Corruption is the deliberate and intentional exploitation of one's position, status or resources for personal gain.



tute criminal misconduct. They are (i) habitual acceptance of gratification (ii) obtaining of any valuable thing without consideration (iii) misappropriation (iv) abuse of position to obtain pecuniary advantage and (v) possession of pecuniary resources or property not matching one's sources of income.

The Act prescribes seven years imprisonment, with a minimum of one year, to any public servant who commits criminal misconduct. Thus one must be a public servant to come under the purview of this Act. Are ministers public servants? Efforts have been made in the past to exclude ministers from the definition of public servants. In 1953, former Union Cabinet minister Arjun Singh's father was prosecuted. His lawyer claimed that a minister was not a servant of the government, he ran it and was a part of it. As such a minister, MP or MLA did not fall within the purview of Prevention of Corruption Act.

The court refused to accept this contorted logic and upheld the prosecution of Arjun Singh's father. In 1979,

the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi again tried to show that the Chief Minister was not a public servant. Both the High Court and the Supreme Court dismissed his plea.

Attempts have been made thereafter to blunt the provisions of the Act. In 1988, when it was revised, all parties ensured to retain the features which allowed immunity to civil servants and politicians.

If Mrs Gandhi defended corruption as being a global phenomenon, the politicians should realise that jailing them now is also a global phenomenon. The judiciary and investigating agencies should draw inspiration from what is happening in Italy, South Korea, Japan and many other countries.

In South Korea former president Roh Tae Woo has been jailed for taking bribes to the tune of \$350 million. The most dramatic cleansing has taken place in Italy. Few could believe that prominent politicians, public servants and businessmen could be jailed, as they were in the eighties. Seven times prime minister, senator for life and

33 times cabinet minister, Mr Giulio Andreotti, faces trial which bears testimony to the retribution in the country. It is about time that India accepts this global phenomenon too and also jails the corrupt leaders.

Erosion of institutions

In the seminar *Corruption in Indian Politics and Bureaucracy*, proceedings of which have been published by the Punjab University's Correspondence Courses, papers were presented which showed that in all spheres and professions corruption has become a way of life. Starting from the ubiquitous system of giving Diwali gifts, it engulfs the very fabric of our country. The institutions which were supposed to protect democracy are today manned by people whose position has been compromised.

Press The press has seen the most blatant erosion of values. Today journalists openly demand bribes from companies to print their press releases. Newspapers do not command the respect nor do they play the role expected of them. Newspapers today are a shadow of their past, none of them comes close even to the role played by them during the emergency. Fearless reporting has given way to almost blind publishing of official handouts.

Even in the hawala scandal, though the case dates back to 1991, the newspapers remained silent. Asks Rajinder Puri, whose dogged

efforts forced the scandal to be exposed, "Why did the media remain silent?"

Judiciary. Though the judiciary has taken up cudgels on behalf of the ordinary Indian, some of its members have not escaped the lures of bribery. Six years ago, five judges were forced to resign after the Bar Council pilloried them on charges of corruption and compromise.

Last year, Justice A M Bhattacharjee resigned after he received \$80,000 for a book he had written. Since it was a disproportionate amount for writing a book, it was alleged that the money was actually paid for fixing certain judgements. The bar association has alleged that undue favours could be obtained by relatives of judges who may be practising law. Such cases are becoming increasingly common all over the country.

Police and CBI: Corruption in the police

comes in many forms. In many cities, regular *haftas* are demanded by them as protection of illegal businesses. Much of the exploitation of women in prostitution dens takes place with the involvement of the police. Huge bribes are collected by them when they start their traffic control drives.

The CBI works as the handmaiden of the politicians. For every case that comes to light, there are scores of others which are hushed up by the agency. Even the hawala case would not have come to light, if the CBI had its way.

Civil Services. The rot in the civil services has been phenomenal. From misuse of official vehicles to accepting bribes for various favours, our bureaucrats have not been left behind. The excuse given for decline in civil services is that politicians have broken the back of the bureaucracy in India. Civil

service officers have crawled when asked to bend. In the process, they have come to be known as the "Indian Cowards Service".

Not surprisingly, the civil service in India has acquired the image of the Ambassador car, outdated, too heavy to move and inefficient.

Army. Time was when the army was insulated. Not anymore. Corruption in the army too has reached alarming levels. Officials reveal that bribes are often taken by the army's rations procurement section. Soldiers are used by officers to do their personal work and are often seen washing clothes or running errands for the wives of army officers. The system of annual appraisal reports gives rise to bribes in the form of gifts which must be given, for a favourable report, to the commanding officer.

The Political History of Corruption

The erosion of values has not been sudden. Indians have lived with corruption for years. The political history of corruption starts with independence and ends with the hawala racket, at least for the time being.

Political corruption started right in Nehru's time. At every stage the leadership of the country was willing to compromise and pretend that it did not exist. When matters came to a head, even Nehru let politicians like Kairon and T T Krishnamachari go free. Though Nehru may have been honest, he turned a blind eye to charges of corruption against his party-men and was impatient with the allegations.

It was only natural that the same trend continued in

Is corruption a modern phenomenon?

Though it is doubtful that it permeated society so effectively and widely as it has today, corruption in one form or another has always existed. Kautilya, in his *Arthashastra*, says that government officials are inherently corrupt. He mentions 40 ways of embezzlement of funds. He writes, "Just as it is impossible not to taste the honey or the poison that finds itself at the tip of the tongue, so it is impossible for a government servant not to eat up a bit of the king's revenue. Just as fish moving under water cannot possibly be found out either as drinking or not drinking water, so government servants employed in government work cannot be found out whether they are taking for themselves or not. It is possible to mark the movements of birds flying high up in the sky, but it is not possible to ascertain the movement of government servants for hidden purpose."

There is much that can be learned from Kautilya. The legislative authority of the king was bound both by *Dharma* as laid down in the *Shrutis* and *Smritis* as also by the customs and conventions prevailing in the kingdom. There were five political preventive checks: (i) the coronation oath, (ii) laws and customs, (iii) public opinion, (iv) ministers, and (v) assemblies. Though internal checks are less powerful than legal checks of modern times, internal checks often prevented officials from blatant corruption. Public opinion, for instance, is recognised as a powerful tool: if any officer is accused by one hundred persons, he should be dismissed by the king.

Basic to all this is *Dharma*. The *Mahabharata*, and even Kautilya, assert that a king who rules in accordance with the laws of *Dharma* will gain the dignity of God and go to heaven, whereas an unrighteous king will sink into hell. The prospect of hell for a king is a frightening one. Today's leaders, however, are not afraid of hell.

Mrs Gandhi's time The famous Nagarwala episode and the Kao oil deals were the early manifestations of corruption. The failure to address issues at that stage continued to snowball and only gained momentum in Rajiv Gandhi's time.

Scandals only increased in frequency thereafter. There was no deal in which bribes were not given. Some of them were revealed in the press. Some of them, like the payments reportedly made by the multinational company Enron for 'educating Indians', were only mentioned in passing. The company, seemingly, was successful in educating some Indians at least. The telecommunications scandal further showed an inept minister favouring a company in his home State for reasons best known to him.

The Rao government has moved from allegation to allegation. The Prime Minister was alleged to have taken Rs one crore from Harshad Mehta. In the hawala case, he is alleged to have taken Rs 355 crore. Whether the allegations are true or not, the fact is that the hawala agents were no strangers to the leaders. Why, for instance, did the Prime Minister take hawala accused, Mr B R Jain, with his delegation when he visited South Korea and China in September 1993, as has been reported? In fact, Prime Minister Rao's track record in dealing with corruption is a dubious one. He continued to protect Railways Minister C K Jaffer Sharief who was indicted by a Parliamentary Committee for taking bribes

in the locomotive deal. Mr Sukh Ram was indicted in the sugar import case in 1989, but continued to hold position and earned fame once again for the telecommunications scandal. The securities scam saw two ministers, Mr B Shankaranand and Mr Rameshwar Thakur indicted by the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC). They were allowed to continue for 20 months before any action was taken.

How the Hawala racket broke

There are a few public spirited citizens still left but for whom the nation would have collapsed. Even at the risk of being called crazy, these honest citizens have questioned why things cannot improve. For the hawala case, there were two journalists who filed a public interest litigation that led to the disclosures.

In spite of the seriousness of the hawala scandal, it may never have come to light at all. It was a chance interception of Ashfaq Hussain Lone, a deputy chief of intelligence of Hizbul Mujahideen, a Kashmiri militant group, that set the ball rolling. When he was arrested in 1991, Lone was carrying Rs 16 lakh meant for Kashmiri militants. The money was linked to hawala operators which led to the kingpins the Jan brothers. A surprise raid recovered the diaries which contained details of payments made to leaders and bureaucrats. Interestingly, Mr O P Sharma, the CBI officer who unearthed the diaries, was suspended soon after on

Behind the hawala

What is hawala? Hawala is nothing but illegal foreign exchange transactions. It is the way that bribes received abroad can be brought into the country, bypassing official channels. It is the way that terrorists within our country can be paid though payments are made abroad. It is also the way that bribes received within the country can be converted into dollars and slashed away in secret bank accounts abroad. Conversion is done at black market rates.

This is how it works. Suppose a multinational company wants to bag a contract in India. It pays dollars to a hawala agent abroad. His counterpart makes rupee payments to politicians and bureaucrats in India in rupees, converting the money at black market rates. Among the companies that have figured in the latest case are the French company Alstom which was awarded the Dulhasti power project and the Swedish company Scnca which got the Uth power project. Senior officials of the NTPC, Coal India, NHPC, EIL and other State officials were paid for the contracts.

This might explain why our ministers are at pains to explain that liberalisation and entry of multinationals are good for the country, even in the face of rising debt, devaluation of rupee, rising inflation and increase in the rich-poor gap. Foreign powers who want to destabilise the country too make payments abroad and the hawala agent makes rupee payments to terrorists within the country. For example, if hawala had been controlled, there would have been no rise in militancy in India; the Bombay blasts may never have happened. Maybe the payments made to ministers were protection money, as has been alleged.

Politicians have also used the hawala channels for sending their dirty money abroad. The agent is paid rupees in India which are converted and deposited in secret accounts in a foreign country by another hawala agent.

The question is: if Sanjay Dutt could be jailed for the possession of a gun, what should be done with politicians who received the money to protect criminals?

charges of corruption.

Even then attempts were made to hush up the case. In 1993, two journalists, Mr Vineet Narain and Mr Rajinder Puri filed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) alleging deliberate and continuing cover-up of the case. The press had only sporadically reported the case. Acting on the PIL, the three-member bench of the Supreme Court, consisting of Justice J.S. Verma, S.P. Bharucha and S.C. Sen, forced the CBI to take action.

On March 5, 1995, the Jain brothers were arrested. This would not have happened but for the prodding of the Supreme Court. But, two of them, N.K. and B.R. Jain were allowed to abscond. The Court made a scathing observation that the investigating officers were not fit to hold their posts. Even after the arrest, investigations proceeded slowly. Finally on January 16, 1996, the CBI informed the Court that it had chargesheeted seven prominent politicians, including three Union ministers and the leader of Opposition.

The leaders who were caught claimed that the money was taken to fight elections. This is true only to a certain extent. Many of them have been exposed as being personally corrupt. In 1991, Devi Lal visited Norway to attend the funeral of the Norwegian king. Hawala operator S.K. Jain accompanied him and allegedly arranged a Honda Accord car for his grandson, Pradeep Kumar. This was surely not for elections but a distinctly personal bribe.

Likewise, CBI has stated that Arif Mohammad Khan used the money to buy houses, vehicles and jewellery. Kalpnath Rai reportedly too started living luxuriously. There was a "drastic change" in his spending habits from 1988 onwards, says the CBI. Arjun Singh allegedly received money for "favours done and/or expected of him". Balram Jakhar, according to the CBI, sent his wife on a tour to Europe and the Middle East and \$5,000 were paid abroad. Thus, funding of elections is only part of the story. Many of our leaders have not missed any opportunity to make personal profit, even though they may claim that they took the money only for their parties.

It is now clear that part of the ills of the Indian economy, such as inflation and devaluation of the rupee, are due to the large scale transfer of funds abroad. The IMF has confirmed that the deposits have reached the figure of Rs 1,332 crore. But, with politicians of all parties involved in gathering money, this would be only a fraction of the actual figure.

What has not yet been revealed is the source of some of the hawala funds. Did it originate in a Comity hostile to India? Was India's security compromised? The answer to this question must await further disclosures.

What Should Be Done

The hawala scandal presents an opportunity for the leadership to face the issue of corruption with finality. There

are several things that can be done.

Political contributions. Political contributions are a worldwide phenomenon. In the US, contributions must be reported to the government. People can easily obtain printouts of it. Presidential campaigns are financed by the government general elections, not party nominations). Individuals can give up to \$1,000 to any candidate but that limit could be evaded. There would be no excuse for taking bribes if the Indian government financed the elections and did away with political contributions altogether.

Form a Justice Commission. There should be a constitutional amendment taking away the power of crime detection and prosecution from politicians. A 'justice commission', like the Election Commission, which should be independent and removable only by impeachment by Parliament, should be constituted. This commission could investigate public servants and politicians, without anybody's approval.

Remove the Official Secrets Act. Bribery is born when there is undue secrecy. There should be nothing secretive about business contracts and the basis of their award. The government must remove the Official Secrets Act and introduce transparency in its decision making.

Make public the assets of leaders and their families: Bureaucrats and politicians must make public their assets whether belonging to them or members of their families.

This information should be placed on public record and the electorate can be given access to it.

Make the CBI independent: The investigating agency should be made independent and should not have to seek permission to file charge sheets against a public servant.

Punish the rascals: Whenever a politician is caught, there are demands for his resignation. This is no punishment. Corrupt ministers should be jailed and their property confiscated.

It is doubtful that any political party will accept these suggestions as it will clip their own wings. Many people believe that nothing will come out of the hawala scandal. After the initial revelations, they will be forgotten and the status quo will prevail. The scandal will ensure that methods of the bribery will change. They will become more devious and secretive. For one thing, there will be no diaries to recover in future.

We hope that this is a cynical viewpoint. But the hawala case can find its place in history only if it is a turning point and is used as an opportunity to reform the corrupt system.

For once, the people of India hope that real life follows the one portrayed in films. For, in the movies, the villains are always punished in the end. It remains to be seen whether real life villains are also punished or not. For the sake of the electorate's faith in our democratic system, it is hoped that they are.

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TWO. Scientific research has proved that for better memory, we should take rest. You will learn my technique "Rest Routine" to get maximum benefit from the rest. My technique relaxes you, changes your brain waves, and puts you in a "learning state".

From today, for better memory, you should revise more, and also take rest when you study.

Read Faster to Revise Faster

Everyone can learn to read and understand 300, or 500 or more words per minute. But, many of us read only about 100 words per minute. My "Finger Technique" will double your reading speed in 30 minutes.

The best use of reading faster is not to study new chapters for the first time, but to revise again and again quickly so that you can remember more in less time. Here is what two experts say about it:

"I am very happy to inform you that my son Ravi Anand increased his reading speed from 228 to surprisingly high 1818 words per minute. Thank you for your course." —Dr M L Singh, MBBS, MS, Eye Surgeon, Bihar

"Unbelievably, I improved my reading speed from 75 to 200 words per minute. My son improved his memory. He also improved his reading speed from 45 to 100."

—Prof M Bhattacharya, PhD, Formerly in USA

Topper's Unique Course

I combine 5000 year old techniques of India with the latest scientific discoveries in brain research, nutrition, psychology, music in USA and other countries. The result is my unique course.

Using my techniques for one week will prove to you that they are surprisingly powerful. Just as a strong foundation helps to build a good building, my course helps you to make the best use of your coaching, tuition, and hard work. You can now order this course on 31-day guarantee basis. So, no risk to you.

Our Student Sets All India Memory Record



Rajiv Chaudhary, age 19 from Palampur in Himachal Pradesh will appear in Limca Book of Records for setting All India Memory Record on 1 Aug 1995. In interviews to many newspapers he said "The secret of my newly developed memory are postal courses *Mind Power Music* and *Mind Power Study*

Techniques from the Mind Power Research Institute. Before joining our courses, he was an average student and scored only 52.25% in High School Exam.

13 Powerful Chapters

A partial list of contents is given below:

1. Learn two mind power study techniques in one hour to quickly improve your study efficiency
- Finger Technique to improve your reading speed: proof that you are capable of achieving much more than what others told you • Daily Routine: your guide to super success
2. Exam secrets for getting more marks • Do not eat just before an exam • How examiners correct answer papers, and how to use this knowledge to get more marks • For these 2 types of questions, you can even fool the examiner and get more marks
3. Read faster to save time • Understanding and taking care of your eyes • Experience your mind power as a magnet
4. How to improve your memory in a surprisingly easy way • Systematic Revision and Daily Routine: easiest and most powerful memory techniques
5. Interview techniques for self-confidence, success
6. More techniques for improving memory, concentration, and intelligence
7. How to use time in the classroom for success
8. Mind maps: a new scientific way to take memorable notes • Key concepts, key words: nature of memory
9. Program yourself for success by using the power of beliefs, imagination, and Neuro Linguistic Programming
10. Advanced memory techniques to remember long sequences, spellings, complicated things

Chapters 11, 12, and 13. Three more chapters. Powerful and life-changing. Very useful.

Music for Success

Mind Power Music is based on scientific research into how the mind works and how to program and control it for our own success. It has sounds from instruments and nature (river or birds). For details on how such relaxing music helps to learn faster, please read USA best-seller book "Superlearning".

This music contains Hidden-Messages which bypass your conscious mind and go directly to your subconscious mind, and change your behaviour.

"I have already purchased a course of Mind Power Music. Please send me 6 more for the use of my staff. Thank you." —Rector (Principal), Holy Rock School, Budhwan, W.B.

"Very good. It relaxes my body and mind. It reduces the tension of my studies." —Dr Anju Bantia, MBBS, Bhopal

"Was very useful when I was preparing for my M.D. exam, which I passed. Thanks." —Dr V Karyekar, MD, Pune

Mind Power Music has powerful effects on your mind/brain. So, it is not for people with epilepsy, and anyone undergoing psychiatric or electro-therapy.

BIO-DATA

You have the right to know about my life and my experiences that explain how I achieved success myself and why I can help you now.

- B E, BITS Pilani. M Tech, IIT Kharagpur, NTSE scholar. Rank 5 Raj School Board
- World-famous author. I published 3 computer books in USA. One is best selling "MS-DOS Masters" \$27.
- Increased my reading speed from 72 to 1037 words per minute. Was a member of Society for Accelerated Learning & Teaching, USA.
- My first job as an engineer paid only Rs 1000 per MONTH. Just 7 years later, I earned \$50 or Rs 1500 per HOUR in USA as computer expert.
- At the peak of success, I returned to India to do something in our own country. Now, I spend my full time to do research for student's benefit.
- I also learnt French, Sanskrit, Karate, Breaking wooden board by hand, many Meditations, etc.

I Lost A Big Chance. But You ...

To get success in IIT entrance, I wanted to order the best postal coaching course. But I was not sure if the course would really give me success. After waiting for 3 months, I ordered the course. The course was very good and it helped me to get rank 1102.

I lost the chance to join B.Tech in IIT because I did not decide immediately to order the course and waited for 3 months. You should not lose any chance. Order this course now without waiting for another day. Thousands from every corner of India and around the world are already benefitting. You can also benefit now.

Are you sure you understand fully that you must order this course now if you really want to get success and also fulfil your parent's hopes and dreams? God's blessings and my best wishes are with you for your success.

Money-Back GUARANTEE

Order course 805, 110 or 712, and if you are not fully 100% satisfied, tear it into pieces and return in 31 days, I will return your money (less Rs 20 for postage, handling, MO). No questions asked. I guarantee it.

Are you thinking why others do not give guarantee and how I can give such a unique no-risk guarantee? It is because my course is so powerful that 31 days is more than enough time for you to benefit greatly. From experience I know that many people benefit on the first day and almost everyone benefits greatly within one week. Now I will also send you a Surprise Gift to help improve your concentration (inspired by 5000 old Sri Yantra which was used by yogis for concentration). Even if you return the course, keep it free as my gift.

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The price for Course 805 is Rs 145 in India (\$40 in USA). Now for limited time, the introductory discount price is Rs 105 plus 15 postage. So, you save Rs 40. Similarly, thousands of courses code 110 and 110H were sold for Rs 95 + 15. But now, you save Rs 45.

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ESSAY

Sick Industries: Causes and Cure

Gone are the days when nationalisation of ailing industries was thought to be the panacea for all industrial ills. In a highly competitive and quality conscious climate that prevails in the market (free) economies of the world, industries going sick, for known or unknown reasons, do not stand much chance of support. Industries other than the ones in the core sector, and enjoying a sense of security earlier even when found in the red, are being treated an unnecessary drain on the State exchequer. Their being in the public sector and getting sick or having already gone sick does not entitle them to any special favour. This is perhaps due to the demands of changing time, ever since economic reforms were introduced in India in 1991.

In the past even such industries in the private sector as failed to cope up with the market forces and began to languish for certain reasons, found a safe haven under the umbrella of nationalisation. The coming into existence of the National Textile Corporation is one such example when a number of textile units suffering heavy losses or facing forced closure were taken over by the government. The story in other fields of production like coal, jute, sugar etc is no different. But, ironical enough, these measures failed to rejuvenate most of the sick units and the policy of indiscriminate nationalisation boomerang zeal.

There is no gainsaying the fact that industrial sickness overtaking some industries, whether in the private sector or in the public sector, does not strike in one stroke. The symptoms of sickness start breeding in the industry when it tries to flourish under the protective wings of permits, quotas and controls by the government. In its monopolistic smugness, an industry or industries may find the going roaring and rewarding but such a

situation, as we all realise now, cannot continue for ever. The tendency on the part of Indian industries to live on borrowed breath in the shape of easy loans, concessions and reduction in duties and a marked reluctance to acquire competitive competence of their own, has landed them in their present state of stinking stagnation, or sickness. Non-replacement of old machinery, outdated technology and repetitive market as well as management techniques, have been the main enemies.

Factors responsible for the sickness of industries may vary in degree but not in essence. In the private sector it is the unwillingness on the part of managements to modernise their production methods (technology) and other areas of operation, as also to construct bridges of understanding with the workers that have been major causes of sickness. But in the case of industries becoming sick in the public sector, the major causes have been management of the public sector industries by bureaucrats instead of technocrats and market and management experts. Running an industry on efficient-cum-profit basis is not managing a government department or ministry. Nepotism, red-tapism, inefficiency, political interference and even corruption have been the worst enemies of public sector industries and their management. There is nothing inherently wrong with the State owning and running some industries in certain vital areas of national economy. Even now, when privatisation has become the current coin, government employees operate a casino in Ghana, bake cookies in Egypt, mine salt in Mexico and make matches in Mali (World Bank Report).

In the case of sick industries in the public sector, some of the reforms or curative measures identified as essential could be: greater divestiture, more competition,

hardened budgets, reform of financial sector and an improved incentive structure to motivate State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) managers. Coupled with these are the appointment of technocrats and experts at the top positions and an undiluted obligation on their part to stand accountable for all their acts of commission and omission.

In all ages and areas of human conception and concrete action, the rule has been 'the survival of the fittest'. India is a big consumer-cum-capital market and its potential to grow larger and larger in the days to come are rated very high. There are challenges and chances knocking at the door. The healthy ones are surely in an advantageous position to explore and exploit the opportunities. But all is not lost as far as the sick industries are concerned. Having known the causes, they can adopt corrective measures and be in a state of fitness. Without losing time and heart, they can think of merging themselves with bigger units or invite foreign investments or collaboration, especially from the NRIs, on mutually beneficial terms. The State or government, on its part should ensure uninterrupted supply of power, raw material, both indigenous as well as imported, rationalisation and even lowering of taxes, grant of loans on easy terms and the like. Both the employers as well as workers should work for peace on the industrial front and ensure unhindered production. All this and other steps may prove a pipe-dream for the sick industries unless hi-technology and the concomitant infrastructure facilities, commensurate with the needs of the fast changing times, are provided on a war footing. In the present day world 'sky is the limit' for those who think and act with all their senses attuned to the moods and mores of the milieu, at home and abroad.

SPECIAL FEATURE

The Return of Communists

With the end of the cold war, many predicted the end of history and the demise of communism. It had been rejected by people in countries across Europe and Russia, in favour of free markets and democratic systems of government

After five years, the euphoria has gone. Hopes of the people of having a better standard of living in the new system, seem to be belied as the free market system has not been able to look after the needs of the majority of the population. Western style capitalism clearly was not the solution, and the people are wearily returning to the old leaders. For all its evils, the system did not have the severe shortages and rocketing prices of goods.

The world witnesses today a resurgence of communism. In virtually every formerly communist country, communists have made substantial gains.

This feature looks at changes taking place in the world. It attempts to answer the question whether the world is returning to the past. Is it the victory of an ideology that ruled by fear and led by the most blatant suppression of its own people? Will the world return to the days of the cold war? The return to communism also has lessons for elected governments elsewhere and the feature describes what they might be.

TOTALITARIAN regimes, as presided over by the former communist countries, evoked fear and loathing. George Orwell described such a regime in his book 1984, as one which brutally suppressed the human spirit. But, as the cold war ended and the communist regimes in Europe and Russia collapsed, it seemed that Orwell's vision could never become a reality again. Barring China, which still had a repressive communist regime, the rest of the world seemed to have embraced democracy and the hedonism of the free market system.

However, in just five years communists are again on the comeback trail. Free market does provide better products and opportunities, but only to those who can afford with prices sky-rocketing and severe shortages the old system suddenly has started to look more humane as far as the common masses are concerned.

IN Russia, the communists have emerged as the single largest party in the Parliament, in the elections held in December 1995. The majority of the people feel that the new system has not benefited them. In Poland, a former communist leader has become President, ousting the freedom fighting hero Lech Walesa. There have been notable gains in the Baltics. Hungary and Bulgaria too indicate a revival of socialism.

Closer home, Nepal has had a communist government, if only for a short time. The minority government ruled under a democratic constitution and could not think of having a dictatorship. Politics polarised between the communists and non-communists and it became clear that the communists could not rule without coalitions. In such circumstances, power precedes principle and the communists stood discredited in the eyes of the people.

In India, the communist movement has not been able to acquire a country-wide foothold. It rules in only one State and the CPI, CPI-M and Naxalite factions are actually stagnating. Marxism in India remained of the textbook variety and with the country having taken to reforms and economic liberalisation, it is unlikely that communists will ever come to power. CPI-led unions have actually hindered industrial growth, the result of which has been withdrawal of capital from West Bengal.

In a reversal of ideology, the communist government too actively started inviting foreign capital in the State.

In that sense, the revival of communism in Europe and Russia are events happening in a distant land with little relevance here. It is doubtful that people will be moved by those events and develop a sympathy for the communist party in India.

In other countries too, there have been changes, though not so severe. In France, the National Front led by Jean-Marie Le Pen has been gaining votes; while in Italy a post-fascist Gianfranco Fini had managed to form a coalition government last year. However, in Austria the elections showed that the neo-Nazi party led by Jorg Haider could only get the third place.

THE gains of the communists are impressive. But does it mean that democracy is under threat? Are the new communists any different from the old ones, in the sense that they believe in multi-party freedom and respect human rights? Or is the world heading towards new regimes that may be more brutal than the old ones?

Indeed, some of the fears seem to be real. Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko tried everything he could to stop the country voting for a parliament. Slovakia's Vladimir Meciar and Romania's Ion Iliescu do not tolerate opposition or minorities. Russia's communist leader Gennady Zyuganov too did not respect democratic norms in his attempts to get rid of Yeltsin. In fact, leaders the world over display totalitarian tendencies and would pose a threat to democracy, given a chance.

Yet, it would be misleading to interpret the events as a return to the past. Many ex-communists have changed their poli-

cies and realise that democratic ways may be the only ones to keep them in power. The vote in Russia is not an ideological vote but against an economy that has not looked after their needs. When things are bad, people vote for change. If the newly elected governments are not able to look after the needs of the population, they too will be voted out in the next elections.

The communist leaders realise this. They have assured continuation of market reforms with an emphasis on social security. In Poland, and in Russia, they have assured liberalisation and cooperation with the West. Clearly, a return to the policies of Marxism-Leninism seems to be out. What is emerging is a multi-party system similar to Western countries. The re-incarnation of communism, thus, does not mean that democracy is discredited.

A return to one party rule seems a thing of the past. Socio-economic, political and technological changes have gone so far ahead that the communists cannot impose censorship and start confiscating property. What the people have voted for even in Russia is not a return to the repressive Soviet Union but for capitalism with a human face. The free market is ruthless and the poor have no place in it. The vote says that somehow this must be corrected.

On the other hand, socialism, as it existed, led to inefficiencies and large scale wastage of resources. People were just not interested to put in their best because everything belonged to the State. There was no incentive to work harder. The situation was similar to what exists in the public sector in India.

Capitalism and communism stand on extremes. If the first liberates human enterprise, it fails to deliver rapid material advances for everybody; poverty remains unconquered in the midst of abundance. The second provides survival to all but in the process stifles economic and political freedom.

The people of Europe have seen both extremes. But it would be wrong to interpret the latest vote as a rejection of capi-

talism. What is needed perhaps is a middle path between the two extreme ideologies. Without significant and substantial social and institutional checks, both capitalism and socialism can go seriously wrong.

It is now evident that even though communists have returned to power and some of them are in the Lenin-Stalinist mould, communism as it existed will never be able to return. Eric Hobsbawm in his book, *The Century of Extremes—A History of the Short Twentieth Century*, predicts that no communist revolution or take-over is likely to happen for several decades, though communism will remain alive and may expand its support base.

DURING the 1980s there were as many as 35 countries ruled by communist parties. Soviet communism had dominated international politics for almost 74 years of the twentieth century. The foreign policy of many countries during this time was shaped by the existence of the Soviet Union. Now there are only five countries ruled by communists. Every one of them, even Cuba and North Korea, are adapting to the concept of global market. In fact, the free market has almost become an ideology in the post cold-war world.

China too has introduced far-reaching economic reforms. It has a conceptual compromise of market socialism. Vietnam is actively wooing American and Japanese capital and seems to be redefining its ideology. North Korea too has a dialogue going with the US. Cuba's strongman Fidel Castro derives strength from the US economic sanctions.

Communists in Eastern Europe and CIS will have to subscribe to social democracy in order to survive. It is becoming evident that these countries will have political pluralism and mixed economies. They will have to guarantee freedom of speech and movement; respect the parliament and also have an independent judiciary. Though the people who rule Hungary, Rumania, Poland, Serbia and Slovenia are communists and some are autocratic, it is doubtful that the lessons of the transition from Stalin to Gorbachev have totally been lost on them.

In all these countries, communism has to be adapted to meet the needs of the people. The old concepts, like class struggle, proletarian dictatorship, a command-control economy have become defunct. In any case, workers have seen that though communism talks about these things, the governments that emerged out of these concepts were the most exploitative and suppressed the very workers whose rights they professed to uphold. The suppression unleashed by Stalin and the labour camps of the Soviet Union will not be easily forgotten.

The new ideology is that of the free market with social safety nets. The new communists cannot control the economies as they did in the past and must have political and economic pluralism if they are not to be overthrown again.

The overthrow of communism in the first place was a rejection by the people of a repressive political system as well as an economic system that was blatantly inefficient. In the intervening years the people of East Europe have seen the ruthlessness of liberal economics. It would thus be wrong to interpret the vote in these countries as a vote against democracy. It is more a vote against blindly following a free market system. What people want is democracy with some of the benefits of socialism incorporated into the free market system. If the new communist leaders interpret it to mean a return to totalitarian regimes, it is doubtful that the people will forgive them for this.

Though it is doubtful that communism will ever come in a big way in the Indian sub-continent, there are lessons for governments all over the world from these trends. It does not do to blindly follow ideologies if people are ignored. In India, the government has realised that overdependence on the free market system will alienate the people; it is now returning to social spending, modifying its earlier *mantra* of privatisation. Whether the return to populism is a result of the impending elections or not, the fact is that any ideology without a human face is unlikely to appeal to the people. It is the age of pragmatism and not of extremes.

SPECIAL FEATURE

The Indian Literary Scene

There is a boom in the literary world. In recent times, many new writers have emerged and some excellent writing has been produced. In spite of the television invasion, people are buying more books and the Rs 500 crore-book publishing industry has recently seen much activity. Popular writers have taken book sales to unprecedented heights.

Indian literature comes in 18 languages recognised by the Constitution and sizeable work is done in English too. But in spite of its variety and the fact that we can boast of some writers of international standards, it still has a long way to go. This is evident from the fact that we have only one Nobel Prize in literature in all these years and there is not a single writer who can be said to be even a contender to the title.

This feature describes India's literary scene and discusses the significant authors and their works. In spite of its boom, literature in the languages is declining; it is booming only in English, a sign perhaps of changing times.

THE Indian literary scene, which has never been dormant, has seen some remarkable activity in recent times. More and more writers are being published and some are attaining critical acclaim. Publishers are willing to take risks and the concepts of modern marketing have started to be used in the book publishing industry too.

Though Indian literature is written in many languages, it has certain common and unifying characteristics. The Sahitya Academy uses the slogan, "Indian literature is one though written in many languages". India's literature draws its strength from the classics and traditional stories and many legends have survived to this day. Modern literature, thus, has a great tradition behind it.

The Indian Novel

REGARDLESS of the language used, there is something typically Indian in the novels that are being published. According to novelist Mulk Raj Anand, "the experiences from which Indian authors create their characters and situations are totally Indian". There are common themes that run through the works of Indian literature. Human problems and social causes are highlighted.

One of the first novel of modern India was *Anand Math* by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee. Tagore's writings stem from humanism and reflect the nationalist concerns of the twentieth century. Though a controversy has arisen about the authenticity of his concerns, he remains the sole Nobel laureate that India has had. Among other major novelists was Premchand who wrote some of the most touching stories. Shivram Karanth, Mulk Raj Anand, R K Narayan are the other major Indian novelists.

The popularity of television resulted in national publicity for works which were converted into telefilms and serials. Bhagwan Gidwani's *The Sword of Tipu Sultan* was converted into a popular television serial, as were other books and stories. Indian literature finally found a new medium and was beamed into people's homes.

Indian Writing in English

SOME of the most significant progress has been made in the area of Indian writing in English. Though foreign in origin, many writers are comfortable to work in it. In fact, India has its own style of English, which may be called 'desi' English, and uses the native idiom. Rather

than remain an alien language, it has become the first language of a number of Indians.

Bankim Chandra Chatterjee's *Rajmohan's Wife* published in 1864 started the history of Indian English publishing. Some of the earlier writers in this category were Sarojini Naidu, whose poems were well loved. Jawaharlal Nehru's works, notably *Discovery of India* are also counted as literature. Tagore wrote in English too, while Aurobindo's works are important from the spiritual angle.

Contemporary India has seen writers like R K Narayan, whose characters in a fictional place, *Malgudi*, are well loved. Mulk Raj Anand has written on the underprivileged in India and his stories contain a poignance rarely matched by other writers. Raja Rao wrote four novels and each reveals his sensitive understanding of India. Khushwant Singh's works have a natural style and he is the most versatile and well-read Indian writer. Salman Rushdie is another writer who acquired fame for his controversial writings.

Some of the new writers to have emerged are: Vikram Seth, Gita Hariharan, Allan Scaly and Amitav Ghosh. The superstar writers whose books graduate to the bestseller category are: Shobha De, Khushwant Singh and R K Narayan. Easy to read, these writers are the most widely read, though critics are grudging about their success.

Most of the works have been published by Penguin India, a publisher which has given a boost to Indian publishing. From six titles in 1985, the company today has 500 titles today and plans to add 100 titles every year. But for Penguin's Indian publishing, many writers may not have ever been published and made avail-

able in international markets. Compared to the Sahitya Academy which was established in 1954, the push given by Penguin to Indian writers of English has been remarkable.

Indian Women Writers

THERE has been a remarkable growth of women writers too. There have been feminist literature, fiction and biographies written by women. The grand old dame of Indian letters, Anita Desai's award winning novels paved the way for other writers. Bharati Mukerjee and Gita Mehta are settled abroad. Closer home, Shashi Deshpande's fiction is notable for its intense sense of sadness. Her Sahitya award winning *That Long Silence* represents women suffering in a man's world.

Gita Hariharan won the Commonwealth Prize for her book *The Thousand and One Faces of Night*. Shobha De has been the most successful woman writer, with each of her books becoming a bestseller. Her book *Small Betrayals* sold more than 15,000 copies and her new book *Snapshots* was released last year. Mrinal Pande, the Hindi journalist, has published an autobiographical novel, *Daughter's Daughter*.

Clearly, books in this sub-genre are increasing by the day and it might become an important genre in its own right if the flood continues. Readers however feel that women writers are obsessed with being anti-male. If they could balance their writings and portray more realistic images of Indian contemporary life, they would become a force to reckon with, not only in Indian literature but also in world literature.

Book Publishing

THE influx of so many good writers has given a boost to book publishing in India. Exclusive book shops are being opened in the metros which function like department stores. Some of these are Crossword, Bookmark and Fountainhead. Delhi's Bookmark offers meetings to exchange notes on books, a phone-in book service and other services.

It may come as a shock that despite Hindi being the national language, Hindi publishing is actually declining. According to the National Biography compiled by the National Library in Calcutta, 11,595 books in Hindi were produced in the 10-year period from 1983 to 1993. The number of titles in English for the same period was 24,357. At one time, publishing in Hindi was booming but has now been eclipsed by English. Whatever language fanatics may say, it seems that English is fast emerging as the language of modern India and may soon overshadow other languages.

Today, almost everybody wants to be educated in the English medium and it is not fashionable to read books in other languages anymore. For an increasing majority of Indians, English is the language they have been brought up on. It is no longer a second language for them.

It is unlikely that these trends will change in the near future. Indian literature today stands at the crossroads in the sense that the national scene is changing in favour of English. Of course the trend was started before independence, but now it has firmly taken root. Writers in regional languages will at best command limited readership. For a bigger national and international audience, writers will have to write in English.

Critics also bemoan the fact that serious literature is vanishing from the market. Romantic and cheap thrillers have grown which, apart from guide books, are the only profitable segments.

Publications of the Sahitya Academy and Pradesh Academies remain irrelevant for most readers. Stuck in the groove of publishing Nehru and Gandhi literature, the efforts of public sector academies are bought only by the libraries. They have done little to promote Indian literature as such.

TEST YOUR LITERARY IQ

Listed below are some important books of 1995, including those which won awards. But the authors are not given in the correct order. Can you match the books with their authors?

Books	Authors
1. Looking Through Glass	a) Vikram Chandra
2. The Moor's Last Sigh	b) N Balamani Amma
3. Red Earth and Pouring Rain	c) Rajmohan Gandhi
4. From Yukon to Yucatan	d) T N Seshan
5. The Heart of India	e) Mukul Kesavan
6. The Good Boatman: A portrayal of Gandhi	f) Gabriel Garcia Marquez
7. Event, Metaphor, Memory: Chauri Chaura 1922-1972	g) Pankaj Mishra
8. Butter Chicken in Ludhiana	h) Pat Barker
9. The Degeneration of India	i) Humayun Azad
10. North	j) Kunwar Narain
11. Nivedyam	k) Shahid Amin
12. Koi Doosra Nahin	l) Mark Tully
13. Naari	m) Salman Rushdie
14. The Ghost Road	n) Allan Sealy
15. Of Love and Other Demons	o) Seamus Heaney

Answers: 1 (e) 2 (m) 3 (a) 4 (n) 5 (l) 6 (c) 7 (k) 8 (g) 9 (d) 10 (o) 11 (b) 12 (j) 13 (i) 14 (h) 15 (f).

ARTICLE

Importance of Social Sector in a Developing Economy

Most developing countries lay adequate emphasis on the economic and socio-economic development but insufficient attention is paid towards the development of social sector. While the economic development primarily concerns with the economic well being of the population, social sector development seeks to improve the overall quality of life of the society. In the developed societies, the process of development was natural, which gradually took place over a longer period of time. As a result, overall development took place, including economic and social development. Modern concept of development essentially concerns itself with the rate of economic development, ignoring the social development, including human resources in general, health care facilities, sanitation, drinking (potable) water supply, housing, upliftment of the down-trodden and the backward etc. Of late, several international organisations have begun to measure social development, alongwith the economic development, while measuring the overall development of the developing world.

Global Concern

EVERY year United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) takes out annual Human Development Report in which the general level of human development is measured in the developing world, with the help of several social indicators. In the UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) for 1995, a new dimension was added to the measurement of social development. This new dimension is the participation of the fair sex in the overall economic development. It measures the participation and empowerment of the women through two newly coined indexes called Gender Related

Development Index (GDI) and Gender Empowerment Measures (GEM).

The HDR-95 has also brought to the fore a new angle to the measurement of global income. It has been estimated that the women work longer hours than men and a huge percentage of the work performed by the women is not formally measured as output and its resultant income. The Report further estimates that a staggering \$ 16 trillion worth of "invisible" contribution goes unmeasured every year, out of which about \$ 11 trillion is contributed by women alone. Despite this huge contribution, women continue to get a raw deal at the hands of their male counterparts. The Report also estimates that seventy per cent of world's poor and two third of the world's illiterates are women. Although women constitute about 50 per cent of the world's population, their participation in political decision making is very less. The number of countries having women head of the States/government can be counted on fingers.

It is now largely recognized that any economic development is incomplete without the social development. Social development is, infact, part and parcel of economic development. For example, Integrated Rural Development Programme cannot achieve its goals despite achieving high levels of money income to its beneficiaries, if safe drinking water, hygienic living conditions and bare-minimum health and medical facilities are not made available to the beneficiaries. Similarly, any developmental programme is incomplete if adequate provisions are not made for the upliftment of down-trodden, weaker sections and women. A marked concern for all such provisions is visible

with the legislators as well as policy makers. Reservations in services for the weaker sections and reservations for women in the newly introduced Panchayati Raj System are two such examples which would go a long way in upliftment of socially and educationally backward classes, as well as in empowering the women and increasing appreciably their participation in political decision making in the country.

Fruitful Investment

HUGE doses of funds have been pumped into the rural areas in India, but studies have revealed that without active support from the social sector these efforts have not been able to produce desired results. For example, lack of educational facilities and general illiteracy among the rural masses, particularly those living below poverty line, has resulted in lack of entrepreneurial skills among the beneficiaries of IRDP; and even after they were provided with an income generating asset, it was not possible for them to fruitfully manage the said asset.

Lack of required attention towards social sector in India has resulted in serious disequilibrium in the income re-distribution also. With the onset of the process of reforms, the social sector was left behind, vis-a-vis other economic sectors, during the first three years of reforms. It resulted in mal-distribution of income and despite continuing huge investment in the field of rural development, the number of people living below poverty line, in fact, increased. This further gave strength to the view-point that social sector must be strengthened to achieve rapid economic

development and other objectives of economic planning.

The Union Government has now rightly decided to go in for huge investment in the social sectors. One of the most important areas identified has been the Human Resource Development. Despite a mention in the Directive Principles of our Constitution, the Government has not been able to enforce the provisions of compulsory primary education. The result is not only lack of extension work, but also lack of facilities. With the introduction of projects on primary educations in most of the States, the country is set to achieve a major break-through by opening thousands of new primary schools all over the country, a first step towards making primary education compulsory. While the compulsory primary education aims at educating the children, the Government has already launched National Literacy Mission for educating these who had not been able to get any formal education during the early stages of life. This huge investment in education would go a long way in achieving rapid development in the years to come.

Another important area is that of health and medical facilities. Despite reasonably high rate of economic development, these basic services still remain very poor in India. India has one of the highest population growth rates, infant mortality rates, birth as well as death rates in the world. Mother and child care facilities are also very poor. Huge investment is required in this sector to make the target of "Health for All by 2000 AD" come true. Education and health care go side by side and supplement one another. India has already experienced this in Kerala, a State which achieved very high levels of economic development after achieving good education and health standards.

Ongoing Process

INVESTMENT in other parts of social sector is an ongoing process and is continuing since long. Providing safe drink-

ing water to the entire population in the country is a very difficult task in a country of India's magnitude. A lot of investment has already gone in and a lot more is required. Unless a country is able to provide safe drinking water to its population, the human resources cannot be expected to work with healthy body and mind. The resultant diseases and unnecessary expenditure on medical facilities can also be curtailed drastically. In addition, basic sanitation and irrigation is yet another area which can easily contribute to the economic well being of the country. Converting dry latrines into flush latrines and providing proper sewerage system are some of the acts which would result in better health and lesser burden on health services.

It has been realised now that India is lacking in economic and social infrastructure. This realisation came only after the process of economic reforms was initiated, and when it was realised that producing a commodity may be much cheaper in India, as compared to the developed west, but the infrastructural bottlenecks make it difficult for the product to be taken to the nearest port. Government of India, from this year onwards, has announced certain tax concessions to all those individuals and organisations who decide to invest in the infrastructure sector. It has also been decided to allocate more public funds in the field of infrastructure in the years to come.

Empowerment to women and their increased share in political decision making is yet another thrust area. Several schemes are already in progress for development of women, so that they are made self-sufficient and confident to take up additional tasks. For the overall development of women, the Government has set up the Central Social Welfare Board, promoted the Mahila Mandals and DWCRA (Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas) etc. Earlier measures include amendments in the Hindu Succession Act, Equal Remuneration Act etc. Reservation for women has also been prescribed in the

IKDP and IKYSEM (Training Rural Youth for Self Employment). In addition, special programmes and policies have been introduced for the downtrodden and the weaker sections of the society. Facilities for the backward, schemes for physically handicapped, reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) are some of the population-specific schemes.

Conclusion

SOcial development is an invisible development. Investment in the social sector ultimately results in an investment towards general improvement in the quality of human life. Although economic development brings economic gains to the society in general, specific measures become necessary to ensure that they reach the disadvantaged and the weaker sections of the population such as the women, children, the disabled, elderly and the destitute. In addition, there are certain other areas in the social sector which aim at the general improvement of the society, facilitating better quality of life, lesser expenditure on unproductive activities, more productive activities and added encouragement to business and industry, thereby resulting in much higher growth rate. The Government has already initiated actions in certain areas, while in some other, the realisation is coming now and new packages/programmes are being introduced. Even globally, it has been widely recognized that the economic development is incomplete and lop-sided if social development does not take place simultaneously. The investment, which was earlier considered unproductive, fruitless and wasteful, is now being treated as highly productive, augmenting the process of economic development positively and also making the process of economic development self-sustaining in the long run. After all, economic development should not logically be allowed to take precedence over the overall quality of life of the human beings. Both these should follow in the reverse order.

March: Before and After Independence

Before Independence

A scrutiny of the events of March reveals that a number of 'firsts' were registered in the month. For instance, in the world of entertainment, while on **March 19, 1906** the first set of Gramophone records in India was released, the first Indian Talkie *Alam Ara* was also released on **March 14, 1931**. Besides the inauguration of 'weekly mail service between India and England', the month also saw for the first time an Indian (Sqn. Ldr. Subroto Mukherjee) taking over the Command of a Squadron.

In this section, besides scanning the 'educational scenario', we shall in particular go through the events relating with the execution of Bhagat Singh, Gandhi-Irwin Pact and of course, to begin with, a recap on the 'march' of March viz., the Dandi March.

Dandi March

The negative response on the demand for 'Dominion Status', even after the establishment of Labour Party Government, headed by Ramsay MacDonald in England, infuriated Indian leaders and they decided to launch civil disobedience. It precisely began on **March 12, 1930** when Mahatma Gandhi along with 78 of his followers started from the *Sabarmati Ashram for Dandi* after taking the vow that 'he would not return to the Ashram till independence was won', and the mission was to break the law openly by producing salt from the sea.

Gandhi-Irwin Pact

The 200 miles 'Dandi March' surcharged the patriotic feelings in the Indians and subsequently thousands of leaders were put behind bars. Government made several attempts to bring about reconciliation and even the First Round Table Conference could not attract the Indian leadership. However as a result of the efforts of Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru and Sir

M.R. Jayakar the famous Delhi pact or Gandhi-Irwin Pact was announced on **March 5, 1931**. This Pact called off Civil Disobedience Movement and besides amending the Salt Law, ensured the withdrawal of emergency ordinances as also the participation of Congress (with Mahatma Gandhi as its representative) in the Second Round Table Conference.

Bhagat Singh's Execution

Notwithstanding the mixed reactions which the Gandhi-Irwin Pact evoked in the nation, it ensured the release of all arrested satyagrahis but it could not save *Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev* from the capital punishment. However the execution of the trio on **March 23, 1931** in the Lahore jail, followed by the cremation of their bodies in Hussaniwala, Ferozepur, sparked off a series of agitations in Punjab, UP and Bengal and at Kanpur *Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi* was killed while saving a Muslim brethren on **March 25, 1931**

Education

In the field of education, March also registered some of very significant events. Following the insistence of Indians like Raja Rammohan Roy and on the recommendations of *Macaulay*, it was on **March 7, 1835** that the Government finally announced its decision that 'English would be the medium of instructions and educational grants would be spent for teaching English and Western Science'.

March also witnessed strengthening of an infrastructure for the higher education in India, for instance on **March 4, 1879** *Bethune College*, considered to be the first Women's College in India, was established in Calcutta and on **March 17, 1884** Lord Rippon, the Viceroy opened the *Mohindra College* at Patiala, one of the premier institutes in Punjab. And notably the *Indian Universities Act*

also came into force in March (21, 1904).

After Independence

Of course many firsts on the 'developmental event' were registered in the month of March in the post-independent period too. For instance on **March 10, 1952** the foundation Stone of India's first *Penicillin Factory* was laid at Pimpri, on **March 11, 1963** India's first passenger locomotive from Chittaranjan Locomotive was commissioned. Further, while Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri inaugurated India's first free trade zone at Kandla on **March 7, 1965**, in 1966 Yugoslav Prime Minister Pete Stamboli opened India's deep-sea port at Paradeep.

Cricket

In the world of cricket, both in the Tests and one-dayers, Indian teams registered some sensational performances in March. For instance on **March 20, 1965** while playing against New Zealand at Delhi, *Venkatraghvan* by claiming 8 for 72 in 57.2 overs exhibited his best performance. Further while playing against New Zealand on **March 4, 1968** India won the Wellington Test in which *Prasanna* played a key role and he got his 51st wicket in 13 Tests.

Then on **March 7, 1987** *Sunil Gavaskar* created history by crossing the mark of 10,000 runs in Test Cricket and on **March 10, 1985** *Sunil Gavaskar* stepped down from the captainship after leading India to victory at the *Championship Trophy*. Incidentally in both these epoch-making matches India played against Pakistan.

Apart from it, March also witnessed *Kapil Dev* lifting *Rothman's Cup* (**March 28, 1985**), *Vinod Kambli* becoming first Indian to register consecutive double centuries (**March 14, 1993**) and *Sachin Tendulkar's* 82 off the 49 balls (on **March 27, 1994**) and subsequently assuming the role of an opener in the one-dayers for India.

DEBATE; DISCUSSION

Why should Politicians not Retire?

Though there is a retirement age in every profession, our politicians never seem to retire. They continue to hold office even if their age no longer permits them to. If they lose elections they go away for a short while and soon make a comeback as chairmen of boards and corporations; some are even appointed governors. Like the proverbial cat, they seem to have nine lives, or perhaps even more.

Is the country short of capable young leaders? Should we blindly respect old age and let the politicians continue indefinitely? Or should they be compulsorily retired on reaching a particular age?

In this feature, we debate the issue: Should there be a retirement age for politicians?

Mr A Everyone must retire at some time or another, giving way to young people. Change is a law of nature. Yet, in politics, we seem to be defying that law. Ministers continue in office way past their prime. They never seem to retire. For example, there was Dinesh Singh who continued in government even though his health had failed and did not permit him to work. If they are caught in a serious scandal they will go out for a short time only. Like A R Antulay, even if a politician is thrown out on charges of corruption he is still brought back after a while. P Chidambaram resigned because his name figured in the securities scam but has been appointed minister once again even though no circumstances have changed. If a bureaucrat can be said to be a son-in-law of the government, the politician can well be its mother-in-law. A bureaucrat may retire one day, but the politician never does. If he is not a

minister, he is appointed as the chairman of public sector corporations. I don't think that the State should look after these people forever. I strongly feel that there should be a retirement age for politicians, like everyone else.

Mr B It seems that there is a leadership crisis in the country. There is no fresh thinking on any issue and the same old faces dominate the political scene. Does it mean that there are no capable people amongst our huge population? The fact is that young people do not get enough opportunity because the scene is dominated by old men. Even failed politicians like V P Singh, Chandrashekhar and Ram Bilas Paswan do not vanish from the scene. Rather than spend their time doing social service they keep plotting, hoping to grab power once again. Political parties are dominated by these so-called "leaders" who actively prevent influx of freshers. It is no wonder that things like corruption and the nexus between politicians and criminals do not get the attention they deserve. No one is willing to take a fresh look at these things. Instead, we continue to speak against "the system" as if it is something alive and beyond our control. The system consists of nothing but our old politicians who are unwilling to touch upon issues of national interest.

Mr C I agree with you to the extent that young people are denied opportunity. But just to say that there should be a retirement age for politicians is wrong, because they do have experience. The debate seems to be whether we should discard experience just for the sake of

influx of youngsters. That is not very wise, in my opinion. Why should we have greenhorns in politics? We have seen the effect of having young persons in national politics, like Sanjay Gandhi. What he did on the national scene is not easily forgotten. So lack of experience is not a very good thing. On the other hand, our leaders have made sacrifices which we should not forget. We should in fact make use of their experience so that they guide national politics. I do not say that young people should be denied opportunity, but that they have a lot to learn before coming into national politics.

Mr D This is not right at all. What sacrifices have present day politicians made? This may be true for the earlier set of Indian politicians. But these days nobody makes sacrifices. Moreover, many people now admit that Sanjay Gandhi's methods, though crude, are the only ways that many of the ills of our system can be wiped out. In Rajiv Gandhi's time we saw the influx of well meaning people joining politics. There was Sam Pitroda who set up the technology missions and brought the country to the path of self-reliance. But people like him were hounded out of the scene by our so-called 'experienced' politicians and all his work was reduced to zero. What good is experience if it works against national interest? Our systems of governance have been totally eroded. What we need are dedicated young people. They can only come in when a retirement of leaders is insisted upon.

Mr E You have not touched upon the effects of not having a retirement age. Apart from the old men blocking avenues for young people, I would like to say that having them in government is not without its costs. There is the cost of maintaining them. One of the first thing that many of them do is to make use of their political status to go abroad for medical treatment, at the expense of the taxpayer. In Himachal Pradesh, an old politician, Shiela Kaul has been appointed Governor, who cannot bear the cold in the State. The result is that a cash starved State had to spend lakhs of rupees to renovate a building in another place which had slightly warmer climate so that the Governor could live there. The cost is not in terms of money spent in making a new Raj Bhawan alone, but also in terms of transportation to be incurred by bureaucrats and functionaries in coming from Shimla, the State capital, to the office of the Governor for official business. There is no sacrifice in this. If she had national interest in mind, she should have retired and told the government to appoint a younger person instead. But the desire to hold on to power is so great that interest of the State takes a back seat. I also feel that there should be a retirement age for politicians. Their desire to hang on makes me think of a new definition of VIPs—very important parasites!

Mr A If they are appointed chairmen of boards and corporations, they fail to manage them properly. Boards like the Khadi Board never do well because politicians head them. In these days of professional management, letting important boards which fail to fulfil even social objectives is a criminal act. There is no doubt that the country is suffering because of our old politicians. And the cost is not limited to medical bills of old people and their trips abroad for treatment. There is the upkeep of their dependants also. A young person may have few dependants but an old person will have children and grandchildren, and each of

whom tries to make best use of government machinery. They openly misuse government vehicles. Some time back, the grandson of the Punjab Chief Minister was involved in a scandal in which he raped a French tourist. It seems that we must suffer not only the politician but all his clan too.

Mr C You are deliberately harping on negative points. While I admit that many of our old politicians have behaved very badly, merely imposing a retiring age will not help. You forget that having old hands guarantees a continuity of policy and introduces stability. If we have new people every few years, the country will take dangerous turns. In politics, stability is as important a factor as anything else, which only experienced politicians can provide. Even if you say that politicians are corrupt, it is better to have older people. At least the older leaders have already made enough money and will not take to corruption in a way that a new person would. That is why I would like the old people to continue. I am against having a retirement age for politicians in India. Even if you take the example of other countries, you find old people on centre-stage. In England the Queen is reigning for years and nobody would think of retiring a monarch.

Mr B But we live in a democracy, not a monarchy. What we are talking about is a democratic society where the activities of politicians have financial implications. Your argument of stability is also wrong. An old politician cannot provide stability. Rather, he will avoid taking decisions on important matters, as is happening these days. These days no decisions are taken and we get the feeling that the country is hopelessly adrift. Young people could provide stability as much as any old people—I don't think there is any correlation between the two.

Mr D I would like to say that there is no correlation between age and

corruption either. Moreover, we are not arguing for throwing out old people altogether. What we are saying is that a retirement age is needed. It may be 60 years, like any government service. But I would like to take the argument on the other extreme. If you say that experience provides stability, then it should be true for other professions also. Why have retirement ages for, say, an army general or an auditor? Surely their experience can also be used by the government till they die. If there was no retirement age in professions, whatever hope we have for getting jobs will be finished. Similarly, there should definitely be a retirement age for politicians. If you are worried about using their knowledge, you can still call them to be part of advisory committees. But giving them offices which require active involvement is certainly a wrong thing to do.

Mr E There is the question of foreign image of the country too. What kind of impression does our President or Prime Minister make on foreign leaders when he goes abroad? During foreign visits, old men do not give a good impression. Our politicians do not inspire any hope at all; even in rallies held by our leaders, people have to be paid and transported in trucks in order to give the impression of crowds. It was only in the time of Mahatma Gandhi, Subhash Chandra Bose and Jawaharlal Nehru that people would go out to hear them because they loved their leaders. Today's leaders inspire cynicism, not hope. At least a younger and businesslike person will give a much needed boost to our sagging national confidence.

Mr D I think we are agreed that there should be a retirement age for politicians. Many arguments were put forward in favour of not having a retirement age for them but the majority felt that politicians should indeed be retired. But the question arises: who will introduce such a motion? Certainly not our leaders who wish to hang on to political power till the very last.

PARAGRAPH-WRITING

Model Paragraphs

"Tough times do not last long but tough people do."

Truly speaking life is not a bed of roses nor are all people docile and delicate when confronted with the rough and tough times. If adversity has the tendency to startle and shock people out of their comfort and complacency, daring and determined minds have the strength to make mincemeat of their adversaries. Bad times do create disturbance and distortion for a while but to infer that misfortunes have a better of human valour is to underestimate human stamina and its stupendous power to overcome all odds and obstacles. The tenacity with which people turn and twist the tough times to their advantage is something to be seen to be believed. Over the ages, human beings endowed with intellect and intuition on the one hand, mind and muscle power on the other have taken the bull by the horns and always tamed and tamed it to their benefit. Tough people survive the onslaught of trials and tribulations and come out of the fire of life much more chaste and chastened than those who shudder and shirk to face the hostile forces.

"The one thing that doesn't abide by majority rule is a person's conscience."

Harper Lee

Unlike the affairs of a State where majority rule is a fact of life, in an individual's life, it is his conscience that is sublime and supreme. Just as in the domain of heart no outside dictates can change the course of emotions or passions, in the same vein a person's conscience is not bound by the wishes of others. It is nobody's slave nor does

it bend or succumb to pressures exerted by numbers or majority. It resides in human mind and guides the destiny of one and all. Institutions of all hues may be run by the majority rule and that is what makes them democratic and functional but this yardstick of yielding to the majority opinion is repugnant to the very existence and essence of a person's conscience. There is no gain saying the fact that a person's conscience is neither a servant nor a subordinate to any earthly authority. It is both assertive and authoritative in matters of right and wrong, virtue and vice. Under no circumstances does it make any compromise with those forces that are out to belittle or berate its sterling standing in a person's life. Between excellence and expediency, conviction and convenience, it prefers the former however hard and harsh it may have to strive to achieve its goal.

"An ounce of prudence is worth a pound of gold."

- Smollet

Undoubtedly gold glitters and its possession makes one secure and a bit satisfied. But more than gold it is prudence even in small quantities, that makes one thoughtful and considerate. Although money in any form makes a mare go but the presence of prudence in us keeps us mentally fit and emotionally concerned about all those things and persons that move around us. Without prudence or foresight we cannot make much headway in life. A careful person uses his discretion where its use is of paramount importance. To a considerable extent prosperity in human life is the direct result of thoughtfulness, followed by concrete

action in the right direction. Discretion, supported by foresight makes a person far-sighted. Prudence informs and enlightens us at every step, whereas mere possession or display of gold is not enough to lead a meaningful life. Blinded with greed, human beings may fail to discern and appreciate the real worth of prudence (foresight) in life but the wise always give it the pride of place in their lives.

"Fine art is that in which the hand, the head and the heart go together"

John Ruskin

The head conceives an idea, the heart fills it with emotions and the hand gives artistic shape to the idea. Fine art, like a triangle is the result of physical, intellectual and emotional streams working together in such a way that the resultant work or piece of art is a thing of beauty and a source of inspiration for ever. Whenever there is incoherence or incompatibility among the three agents of human personality, there is bound to be distortion and disturbance, both in the imaginative as well as in the creative process. Concentration of the head, hand and heart and their intensity and intention to supplement each other's efforts, covert or overt, is the pre-requisite of all fine art. An artist is known for the potential of his feelings and reactions to the happenings outside and inside. Any conflict between ideas and emotions, or among the three cardinal forces of any creative or constructive movement taking place in the human psyche, would bring forth not a specimen of fine art but a lame and limping outburst.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Energy Scenario of India

Energy is a primary input for almost all economic activities and therefore is vital for improvement of quality of life. Its input in sectors such as industry, commerce, transport, telecommunication and wide range of agriculture and household services, has compelled us to focus our attention to ensure its continuous supply to meet our ever-increasing demands. The availability of energy from all possible sources, in Indian context, has been discussed here, which reveals that we are heading fast to tap out conventional commercial resources to meet our demand increasing at a rate 12 to 15 per cent per annum.

Energy sources could be broadly divided into two major categories—Non-Commercial and Commercial and further commercial sources could be subdivided into conventional and non-conventional sources. (Table-1)

The share of both these sources in our country in 80s was in the ratio of 1 : 1, but with rapid industrialisation/urbanisation growth and continuous gap in demand and supply the commercial sector has surpassed its counterpart and in next twenty years the ratio is estimated to be around 4 : 1 as evident from table-2 given below:

Non-commercial Energy Sources

75% population of India lives in rural areas and uses about 40% of total energy

Table-2: Consumption pattern of Energy (in percentage)

Type	1984-85	1989-90	1994-95	1999-2000	2004-05
Commercial	58.1	66.8	71.0	74.9	79.5
Non-commercial	41.9	33.2	29.0	25.1	20.5

of the country (consumption pattern of rural areas—64% Domestic and other applications, 22% Agriculture, 7% Industries, 4% lighting, 3% Transportation). It has been estimated that 80% of energy needs of rural area is met by non-commercial energy sources. Biomass fuels and animal energy are the two main non-commercial energy sources. These have been discussed under different sub-heads as follows:-

Biomass fuels (Fuel wood, Crop residues and animal waste)

Biomass fuels primarily include fuel wood, crop residues and animal wastes. The % contribution of each of these biomass fuel is roughly 65, 20 and 15 respectively.

The demand for the fuelwood has been increasing at a fast pace and has gone far beyond the carrying capacity of our forests. As per conservative estimates, the demand/requirement is around 166 million tonnes per year, whereas the availability of fuel wood on sustainable basis is just 28 million tonnes per year thereby imposing lot of pressure on forest re-

sources. There is, however, a wide variation in the figures of actual consumption of fuel wood. It ranges from 146 to 305 Mt/year, as per estimates of different experts based on number of variable factors such as quantity of energy required in the households, population growth, economic developments and other factors influencing the consumption of these forms of energy. But the fact remains the same that consumption/demand is increasing with increase in population, thus putting immense pressure on limited forest resources. In order to cope up with the deteriorating scenario concerted efforts are being made for massive afforestation of fuelwood rich plant species, launching of improved *chullas* of 20-25% efficiency as compared to traditional ones of 8-10% efficiency, family size biogas plants and solar cookers etc.

Animal Energy

Of the total power generated in the country, the potential of the animal energy is close to 40%. This is mainly for farming operations and transportation. There are about 84 million draught animals which is equivalent to 30,000 MW of power. Emphasis has been to improve the efficiency of equipments, devices and transport vehicles which are animal-driven.

Commercial energy: Conventional sources

The conventional sources of commercial energy are coal, petroleum and its

Table-1: Energy Sources

Commercial		Non-commercial
Conventional	Non-conventional	
Coal, Petroleum and its product, Natural gas, surface water, nuclear material.	Solar, wind & tidal waves.	—Biomass fuels (fuelwood, Agriculture residues and Animal energy) —Animal energy

A summarized view of conventional sources of commercial energy

Conventional sources	Sectors of utility
1. Coal	—60% used for electricity generation. —18% used for steel & cement industries —22% misc.
2. Petroleum & its products (petroleum, diesel, kerosene, Naptha & fuel oil etc.	—40% used for transport —Rest used in industries including electricity generation. Domestic & other misc purpose.
3. Natural Gas	—Mainly in industries and for electricity generation.
4. Surface water	—Electricity generation
5. Nuclear material	—do—

products, natural gas, surface water and nuclear material. However, among these coal is the prime conventional source of commercial energy. In present day context, 60% of coal produced (Coal production of 93-94=246 million tonnes) is utilized in generation of electricity, which infact is more than 95% of the thermal power or about 70% of total installed capacity of electricity generated in India in 94-95.

Petroleum products are significant in providing energy to transport and industrial sector. As given in table above, almost 40% of these products are used in our transport and rest provide backbone to wide variety of modern industries by providing their requisite raw material. These include fertilizers, plastics, synthetic fibres, rubber, pesticides, wide range pharmaceutical and organic chemical industries. The consumption of petroleum products increased at a much faster rate in the last few years and at present 66 million tonnes (1994-95) of petroleum products are being used of which more than half are being imported as petroleum and its products.

Natural gas has come up recently in a big way in meeting energy needs of industrial projects and to set up gas based power plants (thermal energy). The annual gas supply which was around 10 billion cubic meter (BCM) in 1990 has gone upto 16.4 BCM in 1993-94, and it infact represents that we are able to tap/utilize 90% of our gas production, which in earlier years was going as waste.

Surface water, because of its potential energy in certain areas, provides a

cheapest, neat and clean resource of energy. Although, as per estimates of central electricity authority, the annual hydroelectricity potential of our country at 60% load factor is 89,830 MW, yet hardly 25% of it has been harnessed, so far. It is probably because the initial investment and execution period of hydro-power projects are comparatively much more than the thermal

power projects, and in order to meet the fast growing demand of electricity we are going ahead at a massive scale for thermal power plants particularly the coal-based.

Nuclear power, in Indian context, is still at a low ebb. Four nuclear power stations, with installed capacity of 2005 MW are working efficiently however the risks involved of leakage of radioactive materials in nuclear power stations, as such, can't be denied at any point of time.

Commercial Energy: Non-Conventional Energy Resources

Inspite of rich potential in various sectors of non-conventional energy, their utilization, in practical terms is still at a low ebb. However, in the current eighth five year plan (92-97) action plans have been chalked out to develop these resources to get about 2000 MW energy. The table given below reveals the targets of eighth plan of various major non-conventional resources.

Targets of eighth plan of various major non-conventional energy resources		
S.No.	Major non-conventional energy resources	Targets of VIIIth Plan (MW)
1.	Wind energy	—5 00 MW
2.	Small Hydro Electric power Plants (upto 15 MW)	—6 00 MW
3.	Portable Mini Hydel sets (upto 15 MW)	—To provide 50 portable sets particularly in hilly areas
4.	Biomass Based Co-generation of sugar mills	—300 MW
5.	Solar Energy: (i) Solar Photo Voltaics (SPV) systems. (ii) Solar Thermal Programme.	—SPV systems with total capacity of 25 MW proposed to be installed during VIII plan. These include one lakh solar lanterns, one thousand SPV water pumps & several SPV power projects. —To increase the collector area of solar water heating system which at present is 2.54 lakh sqm. —To boost the use of solar cookers from present number of 3.4 lakhs
6.	Tidal Energy	—900 MW (Proposal under consideration at cost of Rs 4,000 crores in Gulf of Kutch)
7.	Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion	—100 MW (Proposal under consideration at cost of Rs 750 crores in Tamil Nadu).
8.	Wave Energy	—To set up 100 KW to 1 MW plants.
9.	Geothermal energy	—To set up power plants of 5 KW or more

CAREER

Information as Career

Lately information has been recognized as a major field of specialisation in management, computers and library science. With the new means of communication like E-mail, Fax, Telex, Pagers and Cellular Phones, the flow of information has become extremely rapid. During the last about one decade, growing computerisation in trade and industry has not only increased the access to variety of information but has also increased the demand for information specialists.

Every data, when processed and compiled turns into information. For most of the managerial decision making, availability of information is a must. The quantum of information required for complex management decisions is so huge that it is not possible for a layman to compile and process the huge raw data. Moreover, the time available for producing the required information is so less that it becomes difficult for a generalist manager to make the information available to the top managers. Hence, there is a growing need for specialist professionals in information. Every business house needs specialists in information, so that they are able to regulate their management information system properly. Another area where information plays a vital role is modern libraries. Libraries have been in existence since times immemorial. But during the recent years, the nature of libraries has undergone a sea change. From being repositories of recorded material, libraries today have transformed into high-technology social institutions, which in addition to books, periodicals and newspapers, also have video cassettes, audio cassettes, other audio-visual material, floppies, computers, CD ROMS etc. In other words, libraries today have become centres of information education,

recreation and research. Finally, increasing levels of computerisation in Government Offices and Government Undertakings has increased the demand for information specialists manifold. Decision making in all such offices is becoming increasingly dependent on supply of information. National Informatic Centre Network (NICNET) has its informatic centres in all the district headquarters of the country, which are linked through satellite and have made flow of information very easy.

Library and Information Science

While academic libraries are essential parts of all educational institutions, public libraries have emerged as an integral part of the community. In addition, business organisations, training institutions and Government departments too have their libraries. Management of all these categories of libraries requires specially qualified and trained personnel who can easily catalogue, locate and retrieve the required books/documents. Special education in library and information science is essential for manning the responsible positions in the libraries. A new field within the subject of library science, known as "information science", has emerged recently. With a view to have a ready data-base, computers are being used extensively in almost all modern libraries. Besides, Local Area Networks (LANs) and Wide Area Networks (WANs) also have library information and in case a particular book is not available in a particular library, it can easily be found out as to which library would have that book. Several networks have fed the entire text of some prominent books of literature in the computers, which is available for study

or print-out to any of the users of the said network. In addition, on-line access is now available to international data bases.

Studies at under-graduate as well as post-graduate level are available to pursue careers in Library and Information Science. Diploma and certificate courses are offered by several universities and institutions. This qualification is also required by one to be recruited as assistant or attendants in big Libraries. Minimum educational qualification is 10 + 2 and the duration of the certificate/diploma may range from 6 months to two years. The course contents of such programmes include cataloguing, classification, library administration, information service, documentation and even practical training. Such certificates and diplomas are being conducted by various universities including Panjab University, University of Rajasthan, Kota Open University, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) etc. In addition various polytechnics and Library Associations also conduct similar programmes all over the country.

Post-graduate studies aim at training professionals for senior level positions in big libraries. The degrees which can be obtained at post-graduate level are Bachelor of Library and Information Science and Master of Library and Information Science. The competition at the stage of admission is so intense that the students with a good academic record only can secure admission. Several universities require the candidates to have a good masters degree before joining these courses. Candidates with some special degrees like computers etc. are given preference in some of the universities. During the course of degree, in addition to the subjects covered in the diploma/certificate course, subjects like library management, refer-

ences, information services, programming, data storage and retrieval systems are covered in great detail. Majority of universities in India run these courses and some universities also offer them through correspondence course/open university system. In addition, several institutions like Indian National Scientific Documentation Centre Delhi and Documentation Research and Training Centre, also offer post-graduate programmes in Documentation and Information Science, which are also treated to be at par with the master of library science and information degree.

Information in Management

Another aspect of careers in information is the need for information and the professionals dealing with information in management. With the globalisation of Indian economy during the recent past, many multinational concerns are either coming to this country on their own or are entering the business as a joint venture alongwith their Indian partners. In both cases, the foreign concerns need quick flow of information to and from their country. Even otherwise, growing computerisation in business has made the information a very vital tool for decision making. As per the need of user managers, the manager dealing with the information services is expected to provide the information well in time. Big business houses either have their own LAN or WAN, or they use big networks to ensure that the computers located at their plants, other places of work and business, branches, head office etc. are linked and any information required by any of the units can be retrieved just by pressing a key. The demand for such professionals is growing by leaps and bounds and the big corporate houses are prepared to pay very attractive pay packages to the right candidate. Generally, the information professional is not involved himself/herself in the decision making process and merely makes the required information available to the decision makers. In some cases, however, both the roles may be merged

into one individual.

To be an information professional, one has to acquire both management and computer qualifications. Good and reputed diploma in management, coupled with a good diploma in computers would make one eligible to be an information professional. In many cases, computer professionals, during the course of their profession, acquire additional managerial qualifications, or vice-versa. Hence, both computers and management make an extremely good combination for an outstanding career.

Computer Professionals

Another area of information is the science of computers. Management of information is an integral part of duties of any computer professional. Growing use of computers in business, trade, industry, social sector, weather forecast, communication, medical science, administration and other sectors of the economy has opened new vistas for computer professionals who primarily deal with the information by collecting, processing, sifting, storing and retrieving the data into the computers. This being the basic function, computer professionals also carry out tasks like programming, training and development while in trade and industry, computer professionals perform the duties of providing required information to the user-managers for decision making. They also perform the function of storing and retrieving the relevant information for decision making in Government departments and undertakings. Growing use of computers in Banking Sector, Insurance Sector and Capital markets has further increased the career opportunities for the computer professionals. Opening up of banking sector to the private companies and proposed move to open up the insurance sector also to the private players is expected to give a boost to the demand for computer experts. It is expected that in the years to come, computer literacy would be a pre-requisite to get any good job in management, administration or

other areas of trade and industry. Today, when cartoons are drawn on computers, architectural designs of buildings are conceived on the computer graphics, apparel designing is done on computers, the time is not far when the computers would engulf the entire lifestyle.

It is, therefore, necessary that the aspiring candidates equip themselves with the required degrees and diplomas from the reputed/recognized institutions. The undergraduate courses can be undertaken after a basic degree in 10 + 2 while the postgraduate courses are available in Information Science, Programming, Computer Languages, Data Entry, Management Information System or even Systems Analysis. These courses can be taken up after graduation, but due care has to be taken while selecting the institution. With the computer training institutions and academies mushrooming all around, it should be ensured that the aspiring candidates join reputed and recognized institutions or Universities.

Conclusion

Information as a career has several dimensions as mentioned above, but one thing is common. It is a challenging new field which would assist the qualified professionals to rapidly rise in their careers. For decision making of any kind, be it selection of a book for reading in a library, or selection of a particular process for manufacturing, or even selection of a particular pricing strategy for the finished product, the need for adequate and correct relevant information need not be over-emphasised. The rapid flow of information is drawing the entire world closer on the one hand, and making the complex decision making look easier on the other. The information, which would have taken a month for collection about three decades ago, can now be collected within minutes from any part of the world. This capability and strength of information makes it the most important activity in the near future, and needless to add, personnel who excel in this activity can expect to be rewarded handsomely.

PREPARING FOR MBA

Getting ready for the Management Interview

If you have passed the written test for MBA, you will have to appear in an interview. Usually this is a neglected area. Students think that they will get in somehow by answering what comes to their minds. Unfortunately, this is not a winning strategy. Many students report that clearing the test was not a problem but they were not able to get through in the interview stage. A little preparation will thus make you confident to face an interview board.

This feature will help you prepare for the interview. Preparation should start well in advance and you should not wait for the test results. In fact, personality development and achieving fluency in speech is a long drawn out process which should ideally start even before your preparations for the test.

We present here a mock interview with some of the frequently asked questions. You should develop your own answers with its help, practice them and form your winning strategy.

Candidate: May I come in sir?

Interviewer: Yes. Please sit down.

C: Good afternoon sir.

I: Good afternoon. Please introduce yourself.

C: Yes sir. My name is Vikas Sharma. I have recently finished my Engineering from the Punjab Engineering College. I come from Chandigarh, a city designed by a French architect and known for its beauty. My father is in the government service and I have two sisters. Apart from studies, I have taken part in college activities like debating and won many prizes. Last year I helped organise my college festival.

I: What did you do in the festival?

C: Sir, we had many events and we had invited teams from other colleges. I was in-charge of looking after their stay arrangements. Along with my friends, we made teams to meet them at the railway station and made sure they were comfortable in the hostel. Our efforts well rewarded when one of the teams went on stage to thank us for the arrangements made.

I: That would have been nice. Tell us, why do you want to do MBA?

C: I have always been interested in a career in management. I have organising capabilities which I can further develop through a professional degree. I would like to join India's corporate sector and that is the reason why I would like to my MBA.

I: What do you know about India's corporate sector?

C: My knowledge is elementary sir. But our corporate sector consists of Indian companies which have been very successful in creating brands. With liberalisation of the economy, a number of multinational companies have come into the country.

I: Is that a good thing? Some people say that multinational companies are exploitative.

C: I would say that it is a good thing. They have introduced new products and competition has increased. Companies are be-

coming more oriented towards customer needs, which was not the case earlier. But there is some truth in the argument that they are exploitative and take out more capital in the long run than they invest. But at this stage our economy needed some competition to get out of the stagnation that had set in. With new technologies that MNCs bring in, even our own industry will be forced to become modern.

I: If you were given a chance to join a MNC or an Indian company, which would you prefer?

C: I would like to join a professionally managed company, whether Indian or foreign. Many Indian companies have professional operations but I don't have any preferences at this stage.

I: If you were interested in management, why did you do engineering? Don't you think that was a waste of time and money?

C: No sir. The engineering degree is a basic one and has given me a knowledge of systems and procedures that are required in all operations, even in non-engineering ones. This knowledge will certainly come in useful in the corporate sector.

I: Still, if you were interested in management you should have opted for something like B.Com.

C: I felt that would be a duplication. I was interested in management but not in accountancy. My engineering background gives me a wider knowledge base. I have however kept in touch with the commercial world by reading magazines and kept myself abreast with business happenings.

I: Which magazines do you read?

C: I read *The Competition Master* regularly. It gives me information in a concise manner. *The Competition Master* gives all developments in current affairs and business which is easy to read and digest. For detailed business reports I read the business magazines.

I: Who is the editor of *The Competition Master*?

C: I am sorry sir, I haven't noticed. Of course I read the magazine from cover to cover but never got down to reading about the editor.

I: If you read something carefully, you should know who edits it. Anyway, tell us about your hobbies.

C: I am an avid reader and read many books. When I was in school I started collecting stamps and now I have a good collection. I also play games and was part of the college cricket team. I have won many prizes in debates which used to be held in college. Last year I won a round trip to Goa in a television quiz but unfortunately I couldn't go because I had examinations.

I: But you could have still gone. Many people do not get

the chance.

C: I wanted to go, sir. But the exams were going on. I decided to forego this and make my best effort for the exam. Opportunities will come later also but if I scored badly it would be a black mark on my career. After a great deal of thought I decided to forego it.

I: We talked of entry of multinationals. Do you think that economic reforms have achieved satisfying results?

C: Economic reforms had been undertaken because our economy was in a poor state. The past two years have shown good achievements. Industrial growth has picked up. Exports grew by over 20 per cent in 1993-94 and foreign exchange reserves, which had been depleted a few years back, are now around 24 million dollars. These are good signs, but the government has not done anything much about reducing its own expenditure. There are also other areas in which economic reforms have not helped, such as reduction of poverty. The country's debt has also increased and is a cause of worry.

Market yourself!

Dress: Dress formally. Do not be casual or elaborate. Girls can wear a suit and apply a light make up.

When you enter: Greet all members of the board. Do not sit unless asked to.

Attitude: Be positive. You can be witty but not cheeky. If you don't know an answer, say sorry. Do not bluff. Avoid jokes, slang and small talk. Do not be pompous or a show off.

Portfolio: Make a file of your certificates and recommendations. If your hobby is sketching, include some sketches. Add information on any prizes you have won or other achievements. Include a neatly typed bio-data.

Be natural: Do not put on airs or get nervous. Answer naturally. Lead the interviewer to ask you questions about what you know. Volunteer positive information about yourself. Do not fidget or fiddle with your clothes or hair.

Practice: Practice your interview skills by conducting mock interview sessions. Join a coaching centre or tape record your own answers and listen to them for weaknesses. Ask your friends or parents to barrage you with questions.

Keep calm: Stay cool, even if you are deliberately provoked. If two interviewers ask questions at the same time, buy time by saying, "I will just come back to this. But first let me..."

Research: Get to know the institute you have applied for. Do not criticise other institutes or your college. Update your current affairs and economics knowledge.

During the wait: Many institutes will make you wait for hours before your turn comes. Make friends with someone positive and chat. Move away from over-confident, opinionated candidates. Find the canteen and eat something — you do not want to be dehydrated when your turn comes!

I: Why do you say that?

C: The debt has been rising over the years and is currently around 99 billion dollars. The interest and repayment will take sizeable resources. Economists say that there is no danger of the country getting in a debt trap. But the example of countries which had borrowed heavily, such as Mexico and Brazil, shows that high levels of debt are dangerous.

I: Does that mean that the finance minister does not know his job?

C: I do not mean that, sir. It has been the initiative of the finance minister that the country has opened to even this extent. However, it cannot be denied that the level of debt is also rising and the country seems to be ignoring this aspect. The finance minister certainly knows his job and maybe there are populist considerations also. But this is a serious aspect that cannot be ignored.

I: If you were the finance minister, what would you have done?

C: There has to be a balance between debt and industrial growth. If I were the finance minister, I would have kept the levels of debt within limits by controlling wasteful expenditure but invested in areas which increased growth in industrial production and exports. Unfortunately, the government is not controlling expenditure.

I: If you limited expenditure of other ministries, you would be a very unpopular finance minister.

C: Yes, that's right. But somebody has to take the step. If we keep worrying about being popular, nothing would ever get accomplished. I think what the country needs is a strict finance minister who can control useless expenditure. Otherwise we will keep going to the World Bank for further loans.

I: Who are your ideals?

C: My ideal is Amitabh Bachchan. He started small but by his talent he has been able to become a mega star. He has kept away from all controversies and concentrated on his work. He is a man with a vision, which explains his recent move to form a corporation. I have learnt a lot from him; he has reached the heights of success by his efforts.

I: If you do not get admission here, what will you do?

C: I am confident that I will get admission, sir. I have a good academic record and have participated in extra curricular activities. My teacher in college used to say that I would be an asset wherever I go.

I: Where do you see yourself after ten years?

C: After ten years I see myself heading a company or an independent activity. I want to be seen as a success story and want to put in my best. I believe that nothing is worth doing if it is not done well. Together with my hard work, I am sure I will be able to achieve my goals.

I: What if you are not able to achieve them?

C: I will put in my best efforts, sir, and work sincerely. If one works with devotion, there is no reason why one should fail. I am quite positive that I will be able to achieve my ambition.

I: Good. Thank you Mr Sharma.

C: Thank you, sir.

ADMISSION ALERT

THE COMPETITION MASTER'S GUIDE TO FORTHCOMING EXAMINATIONS

This column alerts our readers of the forthcoming examinations for careers and recruitment. Institutes should send the information well in advance to be featured in this feature. Readers are advised to assess their own suitability before applying — this column is not a recommendation of any course or institute.

Civil Services

Dates for exams are given below. For details see CM of February '96 issue.

1. Civil Service Preliminary: June 8, 1996
2. Combined defence services: May 12, 1996
3. Indian Forest Service: July 14, 1996
4. Engineering Services: August 4, 1996
5. Railway Apprentices: September 2, 1996

Medical

MBBS/B. Pharma: All India Combined Entrance Test (PMT/PAT) to be held on June 4, 1996. Eligibility: Intermediate/Pre Medical/10+2 with minimum 50 per cent marks in aggregate of Physics, Chemistry and Biology. Last date for issue of form: March 2, 1996 and submission: March 30, 1996. Apply to: Director, Institute of Medical Sciences, Benares Hindu University, Varanasi - 221 005 with a DD of Rs 200 and two address slips of size 10x6 cm.

Engineering/Architecture

B.Arch (5 years), B.E. (4 years) and B.Pharm (4 years): Entrance test to be held on May 25-26, 1996. Eligibility: Intermediate/10+2 with physics, chemistry and mathematics; maximum age limit: 21 years. Last date of issue of form: March 31, 1996 and submission: April 10, 1996. Apply to: Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, Ranchi with a DD of Rs 100 and s.a.s.e size 30x15 cm with postage stamps of Rs 3.

Marine Engineering

Marine Radio Operators Certificate Course: (1 year). Eligibility: 10+2 with Physics and Mathematics. Age limit: 17-28 years. Last date: April 15, 1996. Apply to: Seecom Marine College, 11 Kendua Main Road, Garia, Calcutta - 700 084 with a DD of Rs 60.

Management

1. Post Graduate Programme in Management Studies (PGPMS - 2 year full time and 3 year part time): Entrance test to be held on March 3, 1996. Eligibility: Graduate in any discipline. Last date: February 25, 1996. Apply to: Director, K J Somaiya Institute of Management Studies and Research, Vidyanager, Vidyavihar, Bombay - 400 077 with a DD of Rs 450.

2. Management Aptitude Test (MAT): To be conducted on May 19, 1996. Last date: April 15, 1996. Apply to: AIMA-CME, Post Box No.3057, New Delhi - 110 003 with a DD of Rs 275.

3. MBA (2 year full time, 3 year part time): Eligibility: Graduate in any discipline. Written test: MAT on May 19. Last date: April 18, 1996. Apply to AIMA-CME and Head, Department of Business Administration, University of Lucknow, Lucknow - 226 007 with a DD of Rs 270.

4. Post graduate diploma in Business Management: Eligibility: Graduation. Apply to: Isha Institute of Management and Technology, 1798/52 Nalwala, H S Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi - 110 005 with a DD of Rs 375.

5. M.B.A. (2 years full time and 3 years part time), M.C.A. (3 years full time and 4-1/2 years part time): Entrance test: May 25-26, 1996. Eligibility: Graduate with minimum 50 per cent marks. For M.C.A., Graduate with maths or statistics and minimum 50 per cent marks. Last date of issue of form: March 31, 1996 and for submission: April 10, 1996. Apply to: Birla

Institute of Technology, Mesra, Ranchi with a DD of Rs 100 and s.a.s.e size 30x15 cm with postage stamps of Rs 3.

6. Post Graduate Diploma in Business Management: (2 year, full time). Eligibility: Graduation. Written test: Not Stated. Last date: February 15, 1996. Apply to: Manager Coordination, Institute for Integrated Learning in Management, 6 Waterloo Street 2nd floor, Calcutta - 700 069 with a DD of Rs 530.

7. MBA: (2 year, full time). Eligibility: Graduate with minimum 50% marks. Written test: MAT on May 19. Last date: March 25, 1996. Apply to: Manipur Institute of Management Studies, Cenchipur, Imphel - 795 003 with a DD of Rs 250 and an application to AIMA for MAT.

8. MBA: (2 year, full time). Eligibility: Graduate with minimum 50% marks. Written test: April 21, 1996. Last date: March 16, 1996. Apply to: Head, Department of Management Studies, University of Jammu, Jammu with a DD of Rs 350 and s.e.s.e 18x25 cm with stamps of Rs 15.

9. PGDBM: (2 year full time & 3 year part time). Eligibility: Graduate. Written test: March 10, 1996. Last date: February 24, 1996. Apply to: Institute for Integrated Learning in Management, Lodhi Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 003 with a DD of Rs 330.

Distance Learning

1. Post Graduate Diplomas in Business, Personnel and Marketing: (3 years) Eligibility: Graduate. Written test: MAT on May 19. Last date: March 18, 1996. Apply to: Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management and Development Studies, 1/196 Vikas Nagar, Kursi Road, Lucknow - 226 020 with a DD of Rs 100 and an application to AIMA for MAT.

2. Diploma in Environmental Management: (3 years). Eligibility: Graduate. Written test: MAT on May 19. Last date: March 18, 1996. Apply to: National Institute of Environment, Alkapuri Near Gayatri Shakti Vidyapeeth, Lucknow - 226 021 with a DD of Rs 100 and an application to AIMA for MAT.

Social Service

1. Post Graduate Courses in Personnel Management and in Rural Development: (2 year full time) Eligibility: Graduation. Written test: MAT on May 19. Last date for obtaining form: March 11, 1996 and submission: March 20, 1996. Apply to: Admission Coordinator, Xavier Institute of Social Service P B No. 7, Purulla Road, Ranchi - 834 001 with a DD of Rs 175 and apply to AIMA for MAT.

2. MA in Social Work: (2 year, full time). Eligibility: Graduate with minimum 50% marks. Written test: June, 1996. Last date: February 29, 1996. Apply to: Tata Institute of Social Sciences, P.B. No. 8313, Deonar, Bombay - 400 088.

Veterinary Science

All India Common Entrance Exam for 15% seats in Veterinary Colleges: (5 years, full time). Eligibility: 10+2 with Physics, Chemistry and Biology with minimum 50% marks and minimum age 17 years. Written test: May 26, 1996. Last date for obtaining of form: March 15, 1996 and submission: March 29, 1996. Apply to: Veterinary Council of India, 16/15 WEA, Arye Samaj Road, Karol Bagh New Delhi - 110 005 with a DD of Rs 200 and two s.a. slips enc s.e.s.e. of size 24x18 cm.

Transport Economics

Diploma Course in Transport Economics and Management: (1 year correspondence). Eligibility: Degree in any subject or two years diploma in any engineering discipline. Last date: February 29, 1996. Apply to: Institute of Rail Transport, Room No. 17 Rail Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 001 with a DD of Rs 25 and a s.a.s.e. of 11x6".

VOCABULARY

Improve Your Word Power

1. **antidote:** (a) remorse (b) relief (c) remedy (d) revival.
2. **browbeat:** (a) favour (b) frighten (c) frown (d) feed.
3. **cameo:** (a) acting (b) rioting (c) mourning (d) rationing.
4. **decrepitude:** (a) worry (b) weather (c) wealth (d) weakness.
5. **exude:** (a) exclude (b) examine (c) exist (d) radiate.
6. **fizzle:** (a) furnish (b) imbibe (c) fail (d) excite.
7. **gawky:** (a) smart (b) awkward (c) sad (d) tight.
8. **heebie-jeebies:** (a) pleasure (b) bliss (c) sensation (d) discomfort.
9. **intercede:** (a) arbitrate (b) allow (c) assess (d) assimilate.
10. **juicy:** (a) critical (b) interesting (c) profitable (d) cold.
11. **kaleidoscope:** (a) scarcity (b) abundance (c) variety (d) misery.
12. **locale:** (a) channel (b) canal (c) resident (d) site.
13. **mesh (v):** (a) complete (b) compete (c) submit (d) harmonize.
14. **nuptial:** (a) of marriage (b) of victory (c) of departure (d) of inauguration.
15. **overly:** (a) excessively (b) miserly (c) cautiously (d) intelligently.
16. **primp:** (a) promote (b) beautify (c) privatise (d) nationalise.
17. **raconteur:** (a) paid-worker (b) street-singer (c) story-teller (d) stage-actor.
18. **shoddy:** (a) deceptive (b) inferior (c) superior (d) neutral.
19. **tactile:** (a) imaginary (b) poetic (c) emotional (d) real.
20. **ululate:** (a) cry (b) calculate (c) cooperate (d) convene.

ANSWERS

1. **antidote:** (c) remedy.
—The holiday was a marvellous *antidote* to the pressures of office work.
2. **browbeat:** (b) frighten, bully.
—The suspect was *browbeaten* by the police into confessing the crime he had not committed.
3. **cameo:** (a) acting, role.
—What constitutes the body of the work is a series of *cameos* of people and events the author grew up with.
4. **decrepitude:** (d) weakness.
—With the onset of old-age, *decrepitude* of body and mind is a natural phenomenon.
5. **exude:** (d) radiate, emit.
—An ideally beautiful woman or man *exudes* concern for others, as well as intelligence and enthusiasm.
6. **fizzle:** (c) fail, end, collapse.
—After a promising start, the project *fizzled* out for want of

sufficient funds.

7. **gawky:** (b) awkward, clumsy.
—Despite his impressive height, he did not grow out of being a *gawky* teenager.
8. **heebie-jeebies:** (d) discomfort, nervous feeling.
—Being alone in the dark gives the *heebie-jeebies* to quite a few people.
9. **intercede:** (a) arbitrate, mediate.
—More than once India has made it clear that she is not prepared to have a third country *intercede* between India and Pakistan over the Kashmir issue.
10. **juicy:** (b) interesting.
—The yellow press is always on the look out for sensational news and *juicy* stories.
11. **kaleidoscope:** (c) variety, colourfulness, constant and quickly changing.
—The bazaar was a *kaleidoscope* of strange sights and impressions.
12. **locale:** (d) site, location.
—The director is looking for a suitable *locale* for his new film.
13. **mesh (v):** (d) harmonize, fit in, be compatible.
—Our future plans of globalisation or liberalisation must *mesh* with the cultural climate and existing practices of the country.
14. **nuptial:** (a) of marriage or wedding.
—The *nuptial* ceremony in an Indian family is an occasion for joy and gaiety with abandon.
15. **overly:** (a) excessively.
—There are women everywhere who are *overly* concerned about physical appearance and its impact on their lives.
16. **primp:** (b) beautify, make up, prettify.
—Not only women, but also men enjoy to *primp* themselves up to look more attractive in a social gathering.
17. **raconteur:** (c) story-teller.
—Munshi Prem Chand was a brilliant *raconteur* as far as the Indian readers are concerned.
18. **shoddy:** (b) inferior, low-quality.
—The Indian consumer market is so vast that it can readily provide customers both for quality goods as well as for *shoddy* products.
19. **tactile:** (d) tangible, real.
—Heaney's imagery in the poems about Ireland resonates with *tactile* ideology.
20. **ululate:** (a) cry, wail, howl.
—The way the women were *ululating* over the dead body was a heart-rending scene indeed!

Imagination: Your Spurs to Success

One man falls in love, imagines that he will pluck stars for his sweetheart but, in reality, does nothing of the sort—not even symbolically. Another falls in love, promises a monument and leaves behind Taj Mahal!

All of us see a boiling kettle every day but how many of us convert this experience into a piece of creativity? One man did it. He invented the steam engine.

Generations of men and women have seen the apples falling from trees. How many imagined that the law of gravity could be formulated from it? Newton did it.

The creative use of imagination has enriched our civilization beyond measure. In fact, the march of civilization is the collective march of the creative minds. They have enriched literature, science, architecture, painting, journalism and music.

Many aspire (A few inspire). The former only day-dream. Even this can be justifiable. George Bernard Shaw has said: If you have built castles in the air, never mind. Now, put foundations under them!

Imagination and its power has also been akin to inspiration. Inspiration is not a mere fit of upliftment as most people 'imagine'. It is a late-link and a climax to hard and sustained work. Imagination, on the other hand, is a contributory factor to inspiration. The two are close cousins.

Imagination can be compared to a vast, untamed river whereas inspiration is a momentary spark like a lightening that illumines an obscure inscription on a bench in a park. The most important thing is that all human beings possess both—or one—in abundant measure but use them rather sparingly.

Men and women dream of many things from sheer fancy to real events in life. A newspaper in England invited its readers to describe their private day-dreams. An analysis of the content of the

fantasies revealed that day-dreams could be classified into several categories.

The commonest were the dreams of power, conquest and glory. The second commonest fantasy was to excel in sports—to become a great climber, to be a great cricketer or a record-beating runner. Next came the fantasy of fame as a great orator or debator. Literary day-dreams were also prominent. Others dreamt of becoming master musicians. Still other wanted to win some international scholarship or prize.

And many dreamt of winning a windfall-prize in some lottery, gambling or sweep-stake.

Fantasies of renunciation also figured in the reports. Some wanted to perform great heroic deeds without receiving any ovation or recognition. Others dreamt of renouncing the riches in order to live in-cognito. The wish to transcend natural laws also appeared in their daydreams. Many wished they could travel in time or become invisible.

Thus most of us indulge in fantasies and dreams both by day and night. Psychologists tell us that there is not much difference between night-dreams and day-dreams. Both serve as wishfulfilment images. They fulfil the wish in imagination which could not be realised in reality.

How our wishful dreaming will always remain sterile if it is not backed by action. The way to create new things, new ideas or new facets of the long discovered facts is to constantly think about them with an open but adventurous mental outlook.

When asked how he discovered the law of gravitation, Isaac Newton replied, "I've always thinking about it."

When one keeps his mind constantly employed on a problem, project or idea, he not only thinks of it on the conscious level, but his subconscious mind also starts working on it in its own way.

Thus even while he sleeps, the never sleeping sub-conscious mind keeps on working as automatically as the beating of the heart. The inner mind sorts out the facts, computes the relevant data, draws inspiration from the Universal Mind and conceives new concepts and patterns in order to guide the creative thinker to the right answer, the right solution he seeks.

The creative thinker keeps himself all the time relaxed and poised because he knows that strain and tension block the free flow of creative thought. He pictures his mind having a door swung wide open as an eager invitation for the ideas to pour in. He also knows that ideas have a tendency to elude and to fade out of memory no sooner than they enter the arena of consciousness. So he pins them down in a notebook with the help of a pen, which he always keeps at hand.

The limit of our achievements is set by the creative use we make of our imagination. Whatever we can imagine we can do. Whatever we do may be done better if imagination is applied to the task.

The difficult step is to evolve workable ideas out of the combination of our knowledge and our clearly defined aspirations. Three factors contribute to idea-making, thought, insight and experience. It is their fruitful use that we mean when we speak of imagination.

The kind of thought needed to set imagination to work to produce ideas is the kind which the psychologist Bartlett called "adventurous" thinking as opposed to "closed system" thinking.

Adventurous thinking is used when we first have to discover the method before we can produce a solution, or when it is not clear at the start whether any solution is possible. Thinking adventurously is carried out in five separate stages. First, gather all the facts bearing on the matter and make sure you know

exactly what it is you are seeking to do. Secondly, allow a little time to pass while the unconscious processes of your mind work on the material, discarding what is inessential, finding other useful associations in your memories and experiences, and so on.

In the third stage, a possible solution to the problem begins to form in the mind. This will inevitably happen if the first two steps are carried out thoroughly and high persistence. A fourth step is needed to check that the dawning solution is a good one. This brings you to the last stage, revision and modification of a basically good idea to make it practicable.

At regular intervals the stock of ideas should be reviewed and thought about. Some will have to be discarded. Others will need cultivating.

Bring all the facts into consideration. Bring together similar ideas from different pages of your notebook. Apply to the material you have written down, to the five stages of the adventurous thinking

process.

When you are making your imagination search in this way for solutions to problems, keep your attention fixed on the matter in hand. Go somewhere quiet and isolated, where there are no distractions. Settle down for a long session and do not try to rush your mental processes.

Keep your imagination alert by becoming receptive to ideas. Welcome new views, new ways of doing things. Fight against routine.

Be experimental and progressive. Everything may be done or made better than it is at present. Do not accept the current method as the unchangeable last word.

Encourage other people to talk. Bring up the subjects you are concerned with, mention the problems and possible solutions. Listen to the criticisms and further ideas put forward. Test your own ideas by asking questions to see if others think they will work. In this way you may draw upon the knowledge and experience of other people, so adding to

the stock of material at the disposal of your imagination.

Give all your ideas concrete shape. Continually ask yourself how they will work out in practice. Try to visualise the ideas in operation. Turn anything vague or abstract into precise, tangible form. If you cannot, there is probably something still to work out in the ideas before they are ready for action.

The more you use the products of your imagination, the more prolific it will be in fresh ideas. Plan creatively, to establish proper control over your use of time, over the results of your contacts with other people, and over the quantity of your daily output.

The process of creative imagination begins with a consideration of the known facts, to which is added a visualisation in concrete terms of any ideas in your notebook store. Out of this procedure further ideas arise, or elaborations of existing ideas, and these are applied in action to produce desired results.

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Question Box

Q. What is hawala racket?

—*Manoj Kumar Panda, Khurda (Orissa)*

A. Hawala trade consists of illegal foreign exchange deals. One can change any currency through hawala bypassing the official foreign exchange channel. Thus, hawala becomes a way of laundering money and sending it abroad without anyone's knowledge. Huge profits are made, since the foreign exchange is converted at black market rates.

Q. Where is death valley and why is it called so?

—*Balaji Prasad Misra, Jeypore (Orissa)*

A. Death Valley in California is North America's hottest and driest area. It got its name when a party of gold prospectors visited it by accident in 1849 and found a barren and waterless valley. As they left, one of them delivered the parting shot, "Goodbye, Death Valley" and that is how it got its name.

Q. Should I do PhD after MBA? Will my job prospects increase?

—*N. Venkata Raghava, Anantapur (AP)*

A. You should do PhD only if you plan to go into academics. The corporate sector takes few PhDs and should not be done with a view to increase job prospects.

Q. Where did the newspaper originate?

—*M. Balaram Chand, Hyderabad*

A. The first newspaper can be said to be *Acta Diurna* ("Daily Events"), a daily gazette published in Rome, dating from 59 BC and attributed to Julius Caesar. China's *pao* or reports of court affairs, was circulated among the educated civil servants of Peking for more than a thousand years (AD 618-1911).

Q. What is acid rain and how does it harm trees and crops?

—*A.K. Mahapatra, Sambalpur (Orissa)*

A. The burning of some fuels produce nitrogen and sulphur dioxide. When the sulphur compounds dissolve in rain in the atmosphere, they form a weak solution of sulphuric acid. Nitrogen oxides result in the formation of nitric acid. When these acids fall on forests, they damage the trees and crops, as they have done in parts of Europe and North America.

Q. How can I become an officer in the Indian Police Service?

—*Amit Singh, Hisar (Haryana)*

A. You should appear in the Civil Service examinations and opt for the IPS.

Q. I am completing my computer software course (PGDCA). How can I get a good job?

—*J. Lakshmi Narayan Reddy, Hyderabad*

A. You should check computer magazines and newspapers for jobs in software. Prepare a good bio-data and start applying. These days there is a shortage of computer engineers, so getting a job should not be difficult for you.

Q. Who made the Great Wall of China?

—*Anurag Asija, Abohar (Punjab)*

A. The Great Wall of China—the largest man-made structure—came into existence in about 215 BC when the Chinese emperor Qin Shi Huangdi used convict labourers to make it. The wall was rebuilt many times and the present one is the work of Ming emperors, who ruled from AD 1368 to 1644.

Q. I changed my date of birth when I was doing matric. Can I change it again?

—*Lakshmi, Vishakhapatnam*

A. Frequent changes in date of birth are not going to serve any purpose. We suggest that you stick to your real date of birth and not change it again.

Q. How can I do a course in mass communications?

—*Sasmita Mishra, Nayagarh (Orissa)*

A. Apply to the institutes who offer such courses. Some of them are featured in our 'Admission Alert' column.

Q. How should I prepare for the MCA entrance examination?

—*Jitendra Singh, Meerut (U.P.)*

A. Usually, mathematics and reasoning questions are asked in the MCA entrance test. Practice as many sums as you can and improve your speed to get through. The basic qualification required is graduation.

Q. What is a "red giant"?

—*S.C. Mallick, Jagatsinghpur (Orissa)*

A. When all the hydrogen in a star is burned up, its chemical composition changes. The star then increases in size and luminosity and turns into a red giant star.

Q. What is 'cut motion'?

—*Dev Mangal, Noorpur (Punjab)*

A. Cut motion is a device to reduce the amount of demand in Parliament. It may be done by refusing the demand or reducing it by a specific sum.

Q. What is debt trap?

—*Satyaban Bandhu, Burla (Orissa)*

A. When the amount of debt of a country increases so much that all its export earnings are not enough even to meet the interest burden, the country has to take more loans just to pay interest. Then the country is said to be in a debt trap and only external help can save it.

Q. I want to do a course from TISS. How can I join it?

—*Renu Dhingra, Ambala Cantt.*

A. Please refer to our admission alert column which gives details about TISS admissions.

Q. How can I join the IIT?

—S.D. Kamble, Thane (Maharashtra)

A. You should prepare for the IIT-JEE exam which has already been announced. Prepare well for it. Further details may be obtained from their information bulletin.

Q. How can I get old question papers of Civil Service Exams?

—M.V. Suresh, Hyderabad

A. The *Competition Master* publishes solved papers for the prelim exams and other questions for mains. You can also get books which contain old papers

Q. How can I become a commercial pilot? How much does it cost?

—A. Khara, Chandigarh

A. You should join a flying club or the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Udaan Academy at Lucknow. The basic degree required is 10+2 and a commercial pilot's license could cost Rs 3-5 lakhs. There is no subsidy available.

Q. Should I do CS or ICWA after

MBA (Marketing)?

—T.L. Ganesh Prasad, Hindupur

A. None of these qualifications are going to help you if you want to make a career in marketing. These usually help a career in finance. You should think about your priorities and future plans before doing either.

Q. What is the difference between rural market and rural marketing?

—Binoy Joseph, Kottayam (Kerala)

A. Rural marketing refers to marketing of goods in rural areas, which is the rural market.

Q. Was Al-Firdausi the scholar who visited India along with Mahmud Ghazni?

—Vikas Gupta, Mandi (HP)

A. Al-Beruni, not Al-Firdausi, visited India with Mahmud Ghazni.

Q. What is the format of the entrance test conducted by NIFT and other fashion institutes?

—Sheeba Basheer, Lucknow

A. The entrance test for fashion mer-

chandising is similar to the management entrance tests. You can refer to any such book or our management section for that. For designing courses, some creative questions may be asked to test your aptitude for fashion.

Q. I would like to appear for the GMAT. Please tell me about it and from where I can obtain the forms.

—Mehul Thakkar, Gandhinagar (Gujarat)

A. General Management Admission Test (GMAT) is required if you wish to do MBA from abroad. It is conducted four times in a year—October, January, March and June. A score above 600 should be aimed for. Test forms can be obtained by writing to: IPEM, 119/25A, Mahatma Gandhi Marg, Allahabad - 211 001 (U.P.)

Q. What is MoU?

—Bimal Kr Verma, Delhi

A. When two or more parties reach an agreement, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is signed. It is a statement of understanding and many of them may not actually end up in anything concrete.



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A CENTURY AHEAD

Questions on Social and Economic Problems

Q. Should accountability be enforced on doctors through consumer-protection laws? Give arguments For and Against.

Ans. In the beginning of December, 1995, the Supreme Court ruled that doctors were like all other providers of services under contract and thus, should be under obligation to compensate the purchaser for any deficiency in the quality of their wares. That is, medical practitioners were liable under the Consumer Protection Act (CPA), 1986. The Court said that a person who "holds himself out ready to give medical advice and treatment impliedly undertakes that he is possessed of skill and knowledge for the purpose." Thus, this person owes a patient some duties namely, duty of care in deciding whether to take the case, care in deciding about the treatment to give and in deciding the administration of that treatment. If he breaches any of these duties, then he can be said to have committed an act of negligence to the patient.

Arguments For Enforcement

1. Rapid commercialisation of health services has led to the growth of a class of doctors which has little knowledge and who can prescribe any medicine regardless of their utility. Victims of such doctors have no legal recourse. Strict regulation is needed regarding every aspect of medical practice and firm enforcement would make the profession accountable.

2. Elimination of court fees and stamp duty has taken care of a major hurdle to filing complaints. Moreover, the procedure to be followed now would not be as detailed and subjected to careful cross-examination as in the case of a civil suit.

3. The judgement will compel doctors to put their houses in order, improve the quality of their record keeping and force them to keep the patient better informed.

4. Doctors, like other professionals, should be accountable for any act of negligence or malpractice.

Arguments Against

1. Proving medical negligence is not easy. In order to pass judgements on matters of medical science or technique, expert testimony is required.

2. The ruling could very well open the floodgates for frivolous and vexatious complaints. This could lead to a long queue of pending cases and be a burden on the judiciary.

3. Doctors would now be forced to seek insurance to indemnify themselves against successful claims of malpractice. Medical costs would, thus, significantly increase.

4. The ruling, it is said, will encourage "defensive medicine". The patients will be forced to undergo more tests, at times not even required, by the doctors. This will be inconvenient as well as mean extra expenditure for the patient.

Q. What are the effects of mass media? or How does Mass Media affect their audiences?

Ans. As generally interpreted, 'mass media' include the press, cinema, radio and television. Besides these, books, magazines, pamphlets and direct mail literature and posters are also included. They are called mass media because their reach extends to vast heterogeneous masses of the population living in a wide and extensive area of a country. The mass media employ technological means—printing machines, records, cameras, related equipment, broadcasting satellites. They are founded on the idea of mass production and mass distribution. Broadly, media are supposed to perform functions of Information, Education and

Entertainment

There have been various theories about the effects of mass media.

1. A very common statement is "*the medium is the message*" (McLuhan). He had pointed out that mass communications are neither good nor bad, they are in fact mystical devices that possess powers to change the way mankind lives and thinks. Media, by themselves become important; for example, people watch television irrespective of the kind of programmes. The nature of media itself restructures lives of people.

2. Others have pointed out that media only reinforce existing values and attitudes, therefore they are popular. They cannot bring change.

3. Mass Media is also said to distract audiences from real problems and prevents their doing anything about them. That is, mass media has a mild aesthetic effect, usually associated with entertainment. The effect of media neither hurts nor helps most people, except temporarily.

4. Close to the earlier theory, is the theory that media has a *cathartic* effect i.e., it purges people of many anti-social or unfulfilled desires, frustrations and feelings of hostility. Children are said to imitate violence after seeing it on films.

5. These are however, extreme views. So are others who say that mass communications, taken together are demeaning, debasing and depersonalizing instruments of manipulation. Or they have also been said to be *corruptive* i.e., they teach materialism, brutality, callousness.

6. Mass Media have been labelled as the 'windows on the world' by some theorists. They point out that media, dealing in new currencies of popular art and culture, bring the good as well as the bad to the people.

It has also been said that media do teach people things but these are of no major consequence. These trivial facets relate to fashions, mannerisms, mating habits and food habits. This was termed as the 'Incidental effects' of learning which is particularly true in case of children. Television, for example, is an effective agent because it seems so real to them.

More generally, Mass Media are said to have the effects of imparting Information, Instructing or Educating People and catering to their Entertainment instincts. There are people who have countered some of the very extreme theories stated above. For example, it is pointed out media cannot manipulate audiences very easily. Various groups shape programming actually. Similarly, the editor cannot really use his own prejudices interfere in his role as a gatekeeper. He is, in turn influenced by bureaucratic, communal, political pressures as well as pressures of bringing out the paper in time.

While mass media are definitely active, it is not as if audiences are unresponsive. Perhaps, effects of media do relate to change in attitude and behaviour (however slight). The extent of change would depend on the variations in the desires and inclinations of individual members of an audience.

Q. The Employees Pension Scheme (EPS), adopted in 1991 and enforced in November 1995, generated a lot of controversy. Comment on the pros and cons of this scheme.

Ans. The Employees Pension Scheme is meant for workers of the organised and unorganised sector. All those who have put 10 years of service would become eligible for pension until death. And thereafter, their wives and children. If the pensioner surrenders 10 per cent of pension after death, 100 times the amount would accrue to him as per the scheme. The pension will be commensurate to the transfer of 8.33 per cent of the employer's contribution to provident fund to the pension fund. Under the scheme, wider coverage will be given for granting pension to widow/widower irrespective of whether death occurred while in service or after service. Pension would be granted in circum-

stances of disablement in employment. Pension will also be given for two children at a time upto 25 years of age. If parents are not alive, pension would be granted to two orphans at a time upto 25 years of age. The scheme is compulsory. But like all new schemes, this scheme too has its opponents. Very obviously, the number of supporters is no less.

Arguments Against

1. The pension scheme does not provide any additional benefit to the employee. Making the scheme compulsory and mandatory, even on the workers at the bottom level of earnings, shows a lack of concern for workers. The scheme, it is said, was drafted in haste.

2. For the unorganised sector, the EPS shall be in name only. Actually, casual workers, petty contractor employees, brick kiln workers etc hardly get the provident fund amount. There is lack of effective machinery for disbursing the amount. Rather than bring in new schemes, the aim should be to implement existing laws.

3. It is said that the contribution of 8.33% for funding the pension scheme is too much. Moreover, the pensionary benefits under the scheme are less than those enjoyed by government employees.

4. Opponents say that the pension should be linked to inflation. Some say it should be linked to the consumer price index so as to neutralise the increase in the cost of living as a result of spiralling prices.

Arguments For

1. This scheme is one of the best formulated. Workers normally tend to fritter away any lumpsum amount given as pension. It is a compulsory savings scheme and ensures social security by way of regular pension every month, in their retired lives.

2. The contribution of 8.33% is totally valid. In cases where the contribution was less than 8.33%, amount of pension is far less than under the scheme. Moreover, in companies where the percentage was less, employees had to forego other benefits like fringe benefits, which enhance the rate of contribution to pension.

3. The benefits are actually more than those enjoyed by the government employees. The pension entitlement for government employees is 50% of basic pay on retirement with 33 years or more service. After this, there will be no additional pension in the case of service period higher than 33 years. However, in the new scheme, the entitlement of pension will be 50% of pay and dearness allowance for 33 years of service which would increase proportionately for higher service period beyond 33 years. This would go upto 60% of the pay and DA for pensionable service of 40 years. Moreover, government employees become eligible only after 20 years of service. Under the new scheme, employees would become eligible after ten years of service.

4. There is no need to directly link the scheme with inflation because the scheme provides for a review committee every three years. The scheme already has some in-built provision for neutralisation of inflation.

Q. Discuss the relation between Inflation and Growth and comment on whether it is easy to resolve the conflict between desirable levels of the two.

Ans. Inflation is the sustained rapid increase in the aggregate price level. Amongst the various economic costs and gains of inflation, is the effect on output growth. Conventionally it is said that inflation and output growth go hand in hand i.e., prices rise when output is expanding and vice versa. Many economists have said that a moderate rate of inflation is good for the economy. Normally, output prices rise first while input prices (especially labour) are relatively sticky. This results in increased profits which can stimulate investment and production. It is also said that if voluntary and involuntary savings are inadequate, inflationary policies, which 'force' savings by 'taxing' money and by redistributing income between classes within the private sector, are an alternative. In fact, Keynes was one of those who talked of inflation as an encouraging factor for investment by rais-

ing the nominal rate of return on investment and by reducing the rate of interest. Inflation is said to help borrowers at the cost of lenders. Producers borrow from households to finance physical investment in plant and equipment. Thus, inflation may possibly encourage investment.

However, these arguments have been countered by many economists on various grounds.

(a) It has been observed that the assumption of a lag between output and input price lag, implies that there are idle resources available for increasing output.

(b) Second, once a *persistent* inflation starts being expected, the lag between output and input price lag will be eliminated.

(c) Also, nominal rates would be adjusted upwards to compensate lenders for the loss of real value due to inflation. If interest rates are administered below a level which yields adequate real returns, savings would be adversely affected.

(d) Voluntary savings also get reduced as individuals attempt to protect their real incomes by further bidding up prices of consumer durables. Patterns of investment could also be distorted if funds are used to produce luxury housing, purchase of real estate and building of inventories. Patterns of demand can also get distorted as a tendency towards large-scale, capital intensive enterprises is reinforced.

(e) A serious threat to such a policy comes from the effect on balance of payments if foreign exchange is scarce. If one country inflates at a faster rate than others, its balance of payments would suffer severely, necessitating import substitution policies and exchange controls, thus causing inefficiency in resource allocation.

Moreover, inflation is said to have a tendency to ultimately feed on itself and become self-reinforcing as budget deficits, wage pressures and chronic devaluations contribute to a chronic upward spiral of domestic prices.

Rapid inflation is thus not conducive to long term growth. It discourages money holding, distorts the financial system, discourages saving, could lead to a capital flight and severe balance of payments crisis.

There can be no consensus on the desirable and compatible figures for both Inflation and Growth. In India, for example, there can be two alternatives—(i) relative price stability (Inflation of upto 5%) with low overall GDP growth, of 4 per cent (ii) Accelerated GDP growth rate of about 7% with 8 to 9% Inflation. Can one reach a consensus on this aspect?

At what point a mild Inflation becomes excessive would depend on the inflation history of the country, nature of contractual arrangements between lenders and buyers, institutional structure of wage bargaining and so on.

That Inflation and Growth are related is undebatable. However, the exact relationship is difficult to determine.

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General Studies Scene

Q. 1. Recent weakening of Indian Rupee against dollar has rightly been called "undeclared devaluation" of rupee. Comment.

Ans. After full convertibility of Indian rupee on the current account was adopted by the Government the value of rupee remained around Rs 31 per dollar till recently. It was in October 1995 that Indian rupee started weakening suddenly and its value dropped to Rs 35 per dollar. Several quarters have described this phenomenon to be an undeclared devaluation of Indian rupee. To analyse the issue in the right perspective it would be better to go back to the days when the process of economic reforms was initiated. To start with, LERMS (Liberalised Exchange Rate Mechanism System) was introduced which followed a system of partial convertibility of rupee. After the results were found encouraging, the Government decided to go in for full convertibility on the current account. Many feared that full convertibility may result in immediate weakening of rupee against dollar. To put such fears to rest, the Government decided that the Reserve Bank of India would indulge in sale and purchase of foreign exchange to keep the value of Indian rupee stable in the initial stages.

By middle of the previous year, it was realised that the value of rupee needed some "adjustment". Considering the global value of dollar, the value maintained by the RBI appeared somewhat artificial. The said adjustment was expected to achieve the correct value of rupee. During the earlier days, whenever the government felt strongly about adjustment in the value of rupee vis-a-vis foreign currencies, it would officially order the said change in the exchange rates by way of devaluation. Devaluation not only used to hit the national pride but also resulted in inflationary pressures in the economy. But at the same time devaluation would certainly benefit the exporters who would get more rupees for the same number of dollars. This in turn encouraged the exports and discouraged the imports in the short run.

But now the scenario is altogether difficult. Full convertibility means that it is not the Government but the market forces of demand and supply that determine the value of rupee vis-a-vis various foreign currencies. In other words there is no formal devaluation to be ordered by the Government. Depending upon the demand and supply forces prevailing in the market, rupee can get devaluated or appreciated against foreign currencies, several times during a particular day. As per Government directives, the RBI indulges into sale and purchase of dollars and other currencies to maintain a particular value of rupee. But the RBI also cannot go beyond a particular limit. The sudden drop in the value of rupee against dollar has been described as unde-

clared depreciation by many. But after the full convertibility, it would be wrong to use the word "devaluation". It is, however, admitted that the Government allowed the said "adjustment" to take place as the RBI did not enter into trading of dollar at the relevant point of time. The reduced value of rupee is likely to encourage and benefit the Indian exporters in the short run, but in the long-run, as the imports would become more expensive, the cost of production of the goods to be exported is also going to increase and neutralise the effect. As the imported goods would come to India at higher cost in rupee terms, general level of prices is going to be adversely affected. Most serious would be the escalation in the prices of oil in rupee terms and may force the Government to raise the domestic oil prices in the near future. As the effects of this 'adjustment' are going to be almost similar to those of a devaluation, it would be correct to call it an undeclared devaluation of Indian rupee.

Q. 2. What are the "Six freedoms" enshrined in the Indian Constitution? Also describe the limitations which the Constitution imposes on these freedoms.

Ans. Article 19 of the Indian Constitution confers upon every Indian citizen certain rights with a view to promote the ideal of liberty contained in the preamble of the Constitution. In the original Constitution there were seven freedoms but the freedom of right to acquire, hold and dispose of property was omitted by the 44th amendment in 1978 and thus right was relegated to the position of merely being a legal right. Forming the core of fundamental rights, Article 19 spells in detail the following six freedoms:

- (a) the freedom to speech and expression,
- (b) the right to assemble peacefully without arms,
- (c) the right to form unions and associations,
- (d) the right to move freely throughout the territory of the country,
- (e) the right to reside and settle in any part of Indian territory, and
- (f) the right to practise any profession, or to carry on any occupation, trade or business.

Except as provided in the proviso of the Article 19, no citizen can be denied any of the above rights or freedoms which are considered to be the basic rights of the human beings residing in a democratic set up.

However, no State can guarantee absolute rights to its citizens. Indian Constitution also empowers the Government to impose reasonable restrictions in the larger interest of the community. For example, right to any profession cannot be granted without requiring the citizens to acquire professional or techni-

cal qualifications required to pursue that particular profession. The Constitution therefore, keeps the interest of the society at large also in view while enumerating the above mentioned rights. Hence, while pursuing the policy of welfare State as well as being democratic in nature, social control of individual liberties has also been ensured. Some of the limitations imposed on the basis of above philosophy are as under:

(a) Although the freedom of speech and expression has been provided, yet this freedom is subject to several restrictions like defamation, contempt of Court, morality, security of the State, public order, incitement of an offence under the Indian Penal Code and other statutes and maintenance of sovereignty and integrity of the country.

(b) On the same lines, if the public order so demands, the State can impose restrictions on assembly of citizens particularly when there is an apprehension of breach of peace.

(c) Similarly, the freedom or right to make unions and associations is restricted by disallowing criminal conspiracies, associations which are perilous to the public peace and tranquility, unauthorised and illegal strikes and undermining the unity and integrity of the nation.

(d) The right to move freely and settle anywhere is also restricted by the facts like watching the interests of minorities and scheduled tribes etc.

(e) The right to adopt any profession, as mentioned earlier is restricted by the fact that the citizen must possess the technical qualification required to practice the profession concerned.

To decide whether or not the restrictions imposed by the State are reasonable or not, there is a provision of judicial review which empowers the judiciary, particularly the High Court and the Supreme Court to decide about this matter. For this purpose, these courts consider the contents of such restrictions and the manner in which these are imposed upon citizens under the given circumstances.

Q. 3. Spell out various programmes in the field of Labour Welfare in India, with special reference to the provisions made in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Ans. India is a welfare State and strives at achieving several measures outlined by the Government as policies and programmes. One such area is the area of labour welfare. With a view to achieve effective labour welfare, several programmes in this field have been introduced by the Government. These programmes include skill formation and development, strengthening and modernisation of employment services, promotion of industrial and mines' safety, workers' education, promotion of self-employment, rehabilitation of bonded labour, promotion of healthy industrial relations and encouraging workers' participation in management. In addition, certain specific programmes aimed at ensuring adequate levels of earnings, safe and humane conditions of work and access to some minimum social security benefits have been introduced.

Workers' participation in management is one of the major steps in bringing about industrial democracy. Government of India has taken specific measures to ensure that the workers also

participate in the management process. But unfortunately, the achievements in this field have been much below the expectations. Although the Government has notified such schemes from time to time, but what is needed now is a comprehensive legislation to give a statutory position to this aspect. Proper education and training of workers is also required to achieve this measure in its true spirit.

At the time of independence, the practice of bonded labour was quite prevalent in India. The Government enacted the Bonded Labour Systems (Abolition) Act 1976 and the State Governments were entrusted with the responsibility of releasing and rehabilitating the bonded labour. As per the Eighth Five Year Plan, by March 31, 1991, the total number of bonded labourers identified and released was 2,55,208 out of which 2,22,935 had been rehabilitated by then. After deducting 14,585 who were not available for rehabilitation, 18088 bonded labourers who were released, were yet to be rehabilitated. To identify the bonded labour, the Government carries out periodic surveys who are then rehabilitated with active assistance of the voluntary organisations. The Government also provides grant-in-aid to the voluntary agencies for this purpose.

Industrial and mines safety is yet another dimension of labour welfare. Several industrial activities involve handling of chemicals, gases and other hazardous substances. It exposes a large proportion of total industrial work-force to such work-hazards and environmental pollution. The Government has come out with several schemes aimed at safety of such workers. Prominent among them are the application of ergonomics for improvement of working conditions in factories and docks, deployment of safety devices, monitoring improvement in occupational health improvement and certifications of personal protective equipment. In the field of mines safety, provisions already exist to deal with the problems relating to humidity, mine fires, ground control, stability of illumination etc. Establishment of Mines Safety and Health Academy is planned by the Government for upgrading the technical know-how and professional skill of the officers of the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS).

An area of serious concern in labour welfare is the unorganised sector. This gains importance considering the fact that 90 per cent of the labour works in the unorganised sector. This part of the labour needs attention, as the employers in the organised sector cannot afford to ignore the legal provisions pertaining to the employment conditions and other benefits. While the minimum wages should be raised periodically to neutralise the effect of price rise, other social security measures like provisions relating to CPF, bonus, child and forced labour and insurance policies etc need to be enforced strictly by the enforcing agencies. These schemes should result in adequate level of earnings, safe and humane conditions of work and access to some minimum social security benefits to the labour force working in the unorganised sector. If the Government is able to ensure the above measures of welfare among the workers of unorganised sector, the welfare measures would deem to have been adopted for the entire labour force. An outlay of Rs 1315.39 crore has been provided in the Eighth Plan for Labour and Labour Welfare.

Descriptive Questions

Flexible Working hours

Q. Some people feel that while the new concept of flexible working hours (i.e. permitting the employee to decide the timing of his duty hours) increases productivity, it creates many administrative problems. What are your views on this. Substantiate your views.

Ans. It goes without saying that any drastic departure from an established practice or precedent causes many a ripple in the socio-economic set up that has come to stay. If some people feel that by allowing an employee to decide his or her working hours productivity may increase, the chances of some new problems cropping up cannot be ruled as well. The concept of achieving optimum output from a worker, if he or she is given the freedom to decide the timings of his/her duty hours, has not been put on trial on a big scale. In certain cases the results of such a flexibility in working hours may prove more fruitful than feared. Sometimes exceptions may become so strong and striking that one may feel like emulating the example. Since minority opinion or feeling does not set the tone and tune of work culture, it is but natural that we test the value and validity of the proposal by keeping in view the following factors.

We must not forget that discipline, punctuality and conformity to certain rules and regulations are essential to keep the wheels of production, development and the resultant prosperity moving. If out of innovation an established order is changed, the consequences can be anything but pleasant and productive. If for example, an employee is allowed to decide his own working hours, his decision may upset the apple cart and cause immense inconvenience to others. If the bus driver and the bus conductor of a particular bus, or the driver, conductor and guard

of a particular train decide to report for duty on different timings, the bus, the train or for that matter any social or economic service would be thrown out of gear.

It would be a 'no-win' situation, both for the employers as well as the employees, if the concept of flexibility becomes a licence in the hands of those who are yet to realise what a confusion and chaos such an option would bring in its trail. In an organisation or an institution where the final product or outcome is the result of complimentary as well as supplementary efforts of employees or officials, the exercise of freedom to choose one's hours of duty is fraught with uncertainties and unenviable fall-out.

In some cases, where an employee holds independent charge, the freedom to fix one's hours of work may increase his efficiency-cum-productivity. Artists and other creative persons may find the going good if they are not bound by tight time schedule. Exceptions apart, experiments at innovation may produce more exasperation that excellence, more consternation and less comfort.

Customer Service in Banks

Q. There is a widespread criticism that 'customer service in Banks' is deteriorating fast. According to you what are the reasons for this. How will you sort out this problem if you were the chairman of the Bank.

Ans. Unfortunately, courtesy that is the bedrock of all good business is almost non-existent as far as customer services in the public sector are concerned. As the Chairman of a Bank, I know for certain that in the Banks, courtesy is the first casualty at the hands of those who man its various departments and come in direct contact with the customers. It is not

enough to celebrate 'courtesy week, month or year' like a ritual without one's heart in such a sublime sentiment. Perhaps, for such a casual or crude attitude on the part of bank officials sitting across the counters, the near monopoly of banking services by public sector banks since 1969 is the villain of the piece. Had there been a healthy competition among public and private banks, the 'customer services' would not have become a bone of contention nor a matter of distrust between the banks and their customers.

It has been seen more than once that too much security of service and the benefits related to it, breeds contempt towards the public at large. If bank employees of foreign banks operating in India do not become small by showing common courtesy and expected etiquette towards their clients or customers, why can't their counterparts in Indian banks do the same without any extra cost to the bank or to their pockets? In order to overcome the malady of prevailing callousness towards the helpless customers, orientation courses both in 'courtesy and work culture' should be held for bank employees. The die-hards among the swelling ranks should be isolated and reprimanded or even punished for their unbecoming behaviour. In order to make banks a pleasant place to do business, Unions should be involved to bridle their errant members so that the entire banking community does not earn a bad name. Without the active involvement of Unions, much head-way cannot be made as far as an improvement in 'customer service in the Banks' is concerned.

The abhorrent attitude on the part of employees that 'everytime is an ideal time for gossips, wise cracking, jokes, rights and privileges', should be given a go by. If their rights are sacrosanct, so are the rights of

the bank customers. In matters of duty and public dealings, the arrogant as well as the apathetic do not deserve any concession or compassion at the hands of their employers. For an ordinary shop-keeper, a customer is like a god. For the banks also, the customers are their bread-givers. Therefore, customers deserve care, concern and courtesy besides quick attention and service.

Proverbs and Idioms

Q. Some persons feel that proverbs communicate a message in a more effective manner than plain words do. What is your experience about the use of proverbs and idioms? Give examples and illustrations.

Ans. Proverbs state a general truth or give advice and thus bring out the richness of a language and the wisdom of those who have compressed their experiences or observations in such profundity and peculiarity. Idioms, on the other hand, stand for phrases or sentences whose meaning is not clear from the meaning of its individual words and which must be learnt as a whole unit. The effectiveness of both proverbs and idioms vis-a-vis plain words does not need any recommendation. The proverb 'Don't put all your eggs in one basket' (meaning risk everything one has on the success of one plan) or 'it takes two to make a quarrel, communicates and conveys much more in a few words than an entire story or anecdote told in so many plain words. 'Ends must justify the means' (Gandhi) bares open the life story of all those who have held the purity of means dear to their hearts, regardless of the criticism or desertion by friends or followers. In fact, the older the civilization, the richer is its treasure trove of proverbs and idioms.

When the dark clouds of aggression caught us napping in 1962, we could make out the meaning of the proverb 'every dark cloud has a silver lining' only later on in 1965 and 1971 when the bitter lessons of earlier humiliation were transformed into our strength and stamina. 'All the world is a stage' (Shakespeare) reminds us that

our stay on the stage of this world is entirely temporary but our roles are intense and interesting. Our birth denotes the entry whereas death marks our exit from the multi-faceted and multi-coloured scenario called the drama of life.

Just as a picture, painting or a poem communicates a message that would require a lot many words and references and still fail to achieve the desired effect, a proverb touches the chords in our psyche and opens before us the wealth of wisdom that time has preserved for all generations to learn and live with caution and act with valour. Men with vision, commitment and conviction have looked upon proverbs with reverence and drawn necessary inferences and essential guidelines to make their lives purposeful and worthy. In order to make the best of both the worlds, we must not waste words on unwilling listeners nor should we resort to an indiscriminate use of proverbs on all occasions. Proverbs and idioms, like ornaments, enhance the effectiveness of content and context of only those situations or speeches where the subject matter is of high quality and the purpose is to reach out to those who are in dire need of such advice or message.

Preventing cruelty to animals

Q. Please suggest steps to be taken to prevent cruelty to animals. Explain how these steps would be effective.

Ans. Animal hunting and meat eating have been man's passion, pursuit and pleasure for ages. That day may not be far away when the mute protest against this practice of killing animals or causing them pain or torture for self-gain or gratification may become an issue of paramount importance because animals not only help us to keep the environment clean, they also add charm and splendour to the planet earth. Till such time that people fired and fuelled with self-interest and greed become kind and considerate towards animals, it is high time, that some stern but sustainable steps are taken to prevent cruelty

to animals. Besides enforcing the provisions of the Wild Life Act by the authorities, even ordinary people can contribute a lot in mitigating cruelty to animals. The following steps, if taken in the right earnest, can prove quite effective and timely.

The establishment of an organisation like the Red Cross can go a long way in helping such animals as are old, sick or incapacitated and are left on the roads by their erstwhile masters. One such society (Blue Cross Society) is already doing commendable work in Hyderabad. Its example, *modus operandi* and other detailed information can be had from the Society itself.

The practice of putting heavy and sometimes unbearable loads in carts driven by bulls, horses, camels and even donkeys, should be discontinued. Unnecessary whipping or lashing of these mute but suffering animals should also be discouraged and the tendency to keep them under-fed or hungry, either due to compulsion or callousness, should be replaced with care and concern because these very animals are the beasts of burden and a source of income for their masters. Under no circumstances should their masters desert them when they become too old or sick to carry the loads.

The same yardstick should apply to all those who domesticate animals like dogs, cows, goats and the like and then drive them away on the roads to fend for themselves when they no longer serve the selfish interests of their masters. The practice of keeping birds in cages is the worst torture that some of us cause to these tiny but beautiful angels of our land-scape.

Lessons or chapters on the subject of 'compassion towards animals, birds and rodents' should be included in the school curriculum at the primary stage when the minds of children are highly sensitive and impressionable. Use of electronic media, visuals, documentaries and the like can go a long way in instilling a feeling of kindness towards animals, who are a precious wealth of the Mother Earth.



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THE MASTER FEBRUARY

GEO SPORT

WORLD CUP RECORDS

MARCH

	FORECAST	RESULTS
1. Highest Test Score		
2. Lowest Team Score		
3. Highest score by an individual player		
4. Player to hit fastest 100		
5. Player to hit fastest 50		
6. Player to score maximum runs		
7. Player to hit maximum sixes		
8. Player to hit maximum fours		
9. Bowler to take maximum wickets		
10. Player to take maximum catches		
11. Wicket keeper to make maximum stumpings		
12. Wicket keeper to take maximum catches		
13. Player to make maximum run outs		
14. No. runs scored by Jadeja		
15. No. of catches taken by Jadeja		
16. No. of run outs made by Jadeja		
17. No. of sixes hit by Jadeja		
18. No. of fours hit by Jadeja		
19. Highest score by Jadeja		

1	England Vs. Sri Lanka - CALCUTTA (IND)
2	England Vs. Sri Lanka - CALCUTTA (IND)
3	Pakistan Vs. England - KARACHI (PAK)
4	W. Indies Vs. Australia - JAIPUR (IND)
5	S. Africa Vs. Netherlands - RAIPUR (PAK)
6	Pakistan Vs. New Zealand - LAHORE (PAK) India Vs. Zimbabwe - RAIPUR (IND) Sri Lanka Vs. Kenya - COLOMBO (SL)
7	THU
8	FR
9	Quarter Final IND-BANGLADESH (PAK) IND-BANGLADESH (IND)
10	SUN
11	Quarter Final IND-BANGLADESH (PAK) IND-BANGLADESH (IND)
12	TUE
13	FIRST SEMI FINAL - CALCUTTA (IND)
14	SECOND SEMI FINAL - MUMBAI (IND)
15	FR
16	SAT
17	FINA - LAHORE (PAK)
18	MON
19	TUE
20	WED
21	THU
22	FR
23	SAT
24	SUN
25	MON
26	TUE
27	WED
28	THU
29	FR
30	SAT
31	SUN

England Vs. Sri Lanka - CALCUTTA (IND)

England Vs. New Zealand - AMERDABAD (IND)

S. Africa Vs. UAE - RAIPUR (PAK)

W. Indies Vs. Zimbabwe - RAIPUR (IND)

Netherlands Vs. New Zealand - KARACHI (PAK)
Sri Lanka Vs. Australia - COLOMBO (SL)

England Vs. India - RAIPUR (PAK)
India Vs. Kenya - CALCUTTA (IND)



PERSONAL TEAM PERFORMANCE INDEX

TEAM	WINS	LOSSES	POINTS	WINS	LOSSES	POINTS
INDIA	10	1	19	INDIA	10	19
PAKISTAN	10	1	19	PAKISTAN	10	19
ENGLAND	10	1	19	ENGLAND	10	19
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NEW ZEALAND	10	1	19	NEW ZEALAND	10	19
INDIA	10	1	19	INDIA	10	19
PAKISTAN	10	1	19	PAKISTAN	10	19
ENGLAND	10	1	19	ENGLAND	10	19
NEW ZEALAND	10	1	19	NEW ZEALAND	10	19
WEST INDIES	10	1	19	WEST INDIES	10	19
SAUTH AFRICA	10	1	19	SAUTH AFRICA	10	19
UAE	10	1	19	UAE	10	19
NETHERLANDS	10	1	19	NETHERLANDS	10	19
NEW ZEALAND	10	1	19	NEW ZEALAND	10	19
INDIA	10	1	19	INDIA	10	19
PAKISTAN	10	1	19	PAKISTAN	10	19
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WEST INDIES	10	1	19	WEST INDIES	10	19
SAUTH AFRICA	10	1	19	SAUTH AFRICA	10	19
UAE	10	1	19	UAE	10	19
NETHERLANDS	10	1	19	NETHERLANDS	10	19
NEW ZEALAND	10	1	19	NEW ZEALAND	10	19
INDIA	10	1	19	INDIA	10	19
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WEST INDIES	10	1	19	WEST INDIES	10	19
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WEST INDIES	10	1	19	WEST INDIES	10	19
SAUTH AFRICA	10	1	19	SAUTH AFRICA	10	19
UAE	10	1	19	UAE	10	19
NETHERLANDS	10	1	19	NETHERLANDS	10	19
NEW ZEALAND	10	1	19	NEW ZEALAND	10	19
INDIA	10	1	19	INDIA	10	19
PAKISTAN	10	1	19	PAKISTAN	10	19
ENGLAND	10	1	19	ENGLAND	10	19
NEW ZEALAND	10	1	19	NEW ZEALAND	10	19
WEST INDIES	10	1	19	WEST INDIES	10	19
SAUTH AFRICA	10	1	19	SAUTH AFRICA	10	19
UAE	10	1	19	UAE	10	19
NETHERLANDS	10	1	19	NETHERLANDS	10	19
NEW ZEALAND	10	1	19	NEW ZEALAND	10	19
INDIA	10	1	19	INDIA	10	19
PAKISTAN	10	1	19	PAKISTAN	10	19
ENGLAND	10	1	19	ENGLAND	10	19
NEW ZEALAND	10	1	19	NEW ZEALAND	10	19
WEST INDIES	10	1	19	WEST INDIES	10	19
SAUTH AFRICA	10	1	19	SAUTH AFRICA	10	19
UAE	10	1	19	UAE	10	19
NETHERLANDS	10	1	19	NETHERLANDS	10	19
NEW ZEALAND	10	1	19	NEW ZEALAND	10	19
INDIA	10	1	19	INDIA	10	19
PAKISTAN	10	1	19	PAKISTAN	10	19
ENGLAND	10	1	19	ENGLAND	10	19
NEW ZEALAND	10	1	19	NEW ZEALAND	10	19
WEST INDIES	10	1	19	WEST INDIES	10	19
SAUTH AFRICA	10	1	19	SAUTH AFRICA	10	19
UAE	10	1	19	UAE	10	19
NETHERLANDS	10	1	19	NETHERLANDS	10	19
NEW ZEALAND	10	1	19	NEW ZEALAND	10	19
INDIA	10	1	19	INDIA	10	19
PAKISTAN	10	1	19	PAKISTAN	10	19
ENGLAND	10	1	19	ENGLAND	10	19
NEW ZEALAND	10	1	19	NEW ZEALAND	10	19
WEST INDIES	10	1	19	WEST INDIES	10	19
SAUTH AFRICA	10	1	19	SAUTH AFRICA	10	19
UAE	10	1	19	UAE	10	19
NETHERLANDS	10	1	19	NETHERLANDS	10	19
NEW ZEALAND	10	1	19	NEW ZEALAND	10	19
INDIA	10	1	19	INDIA	10	19
PAKISTAN	10	1	19	PAKISTAN	10	19
ENGLAND	10	1	19	ENGLAND	10	19
NEW ZEALAND	10	1	19	NEW ZEALAND	10	19
WEST INDIES	10	1	19	WEST INDIES	10	19
SAUTH AFRICA	10	1	19	SAUTH AFRICA	10	19
UAE	10	1	19	UAE	10	19
NETHERLANDS	10	1	19	NETHERLANDS	10	19
NEW ZEALAND	10	1	19	NEW ZEALAND</		

Quantitative Aptitude

1. The units digit in the product $(7^{71} \times 6^{69} \times 3^{85})$ is:
(a) 6 (b) 4 (c) 1 (d) 2
2. The expression $[\frac{1}{1.2} + \frac{1}{2.3} + \frac{1}{3.4} + \dots + \frac{1}{n(n+1)}]$ for any natural number n is:
(a) always equal to 1 (b) always less than 1
(c) always greater than 1 (d) Not definite
3. If $-1 \leq x \leq 2$ and $1 \leq y \leq 3$, then least possible value of $2y - 3x$ is:
(a) 0 (b) -2 (c) -4 (d) 1
4. There is one number which is formed by writing one digit six times (e.g. 222222) such number is always divisible by:
(a) 16 (b) 11 (c) 15 (d) None of these
5. The H.C.F. of two numbers is 14 and their difference is 14. The numbers are:
(a) 70, 84 (b) 56, 68 (c) 42, 66 (d) 38, 52
6. An enterprising businessman earns an income of Re 1 on the first day of his business. On every subsequent day, he earns an income which is just double of that made on the previous day. On the 10 day of business, he earns an income of:
(a) Rs 2^9 (b) Rs 2^{10} (c) Rs 10^2 (d) Rs 20
7. In an examination, a student scores 4 marks for every correct answer and loses 1 mark for every wrong answer. If he attempts all 65 questions and secures 135 marks, the number of questions he attempts correctly is:
(a) 50 (b) 35 (c) 40 (d) 45
8. Sheela's age is $\frac{1}{5}$ th of her father's age. Sheela's father's age will be twice of Leela's age after 10 years. If Leela's 6th birthday was celebrated 4 years before, then what is Sheela's present age?
(a) 7 years (b) 6 years (c) 5 years
(d) 8 years
9. If $5^{x+11} = (125)^{8x-4}$ then the value of x is:
(a) 1 (b) 0 (c) 3 (d) 5
10. A reduction of 21% in the price of wheat enables a person to buy 10.5 kg more for Rs 100. What is the reduced price per kg?
(a) Rs 2.50 (b) Rs 2.00 (c) Rs 3 (d) Rs 4.50
11. The population of a town increases by 15% p.a. If the present population is 8,000, what will it be after 2 years?
(a) 14000 (b) 11280 (c) 10580
(d) 12000
12. A's weight is 20% less than B's. How much is B's weight more than A's?
(a) 25% (b) 30% (c) 22% (d) 15%
13. The original price of dining table is Rs 9000. The price is discounted by 20% and then raised by 10%, what is its new price?
(a) Rs 8000 (b) Rs 6700
(c) Rs 7920 (d) Rs 6580
14. A shopkeeper allows a discount of 12% on the marked price. How much above cost price must he mark his goods to gain 10%?
(a) 20% (b) 25% (c) 16% (d) 18%
15. A dishonest dealer professes to sell his goods at cost price but uses a weight of 960 gms for a kg weight. Find gain per cent.
(a) $5\frac{1}{3}\%$ (b) $6\frac{2}{3}\%$ (c) $4\frac{1}{6}\%$
(d) None of these
16. The length of one diagonal of a rhombus is 80% of the other diagonal. The area of the rhombus is how many times the square of the length of the longer diagonal?
(a) $\frac{1}{4}$ (b) $\frac{2}{5}$ (c) $\frac{3}{4}$ (d) $\frac{5}{9}$
17. The perimeter of a rectangle is 2.5 km. What is the greatest possible area it may contain?
(a) 40.259 hectare (b) 38.625 hectare
(c) 39.0625 hectare (d) 42.15 hectare
18. The volume of a metal of cylindrical pipe is 748 cm^3 . Its length is 14 cm and its external radius is 9 cm. Find its thickness.
(a) 1 cm (b) 5.2 cm (c) 2.3 cm (d) 3.7 cm
19. Telegraph poles are at a distance of 60 m apart. A railway passenger counts the poles on the rail road as he passes them. How many will he have passed by a train in 6 hrs if the speed of the train is 45 km/hr.
(a) 3600 (b) 4200 (c) 4500 (d) 5000
20. A and B together can do a job in 8 days. If A does twice as much work as B in a given time, find how long A alone would take to do the work:
(a) 12 days (b) 10 days (c) 15 days
(d) 20 days
21. A person lent a sum of money at 4% S.I. and in 8 years the interest amounted Rs 272 less than the sum lent. Find the sum lent.
(a) Rs 650 (b) Rs 400 (c) Rs 354 (d) Rs 500
22. On what sum will the compound interest at 5% p.a. for 2 years be Rs 410?
(a) Rs 4200 (b) Rs 8400 (c) Rs 4000 (d) Rs 5300

23 A clock gains 5 minutes every hour. The angle traversed by the second hand in one minute will be

- (a) 330° (b) 380° (c) 390° (d) 240°

24 By selling 11 oranges for a Re, a man loses 10%. How many for a rupee should he sell to gain 10%?

- (a) 9 (b) 10 (c) 7 (d) 8

25 The average age of 8 men is increased by 2 years when two of them, whose ages are 20 and 24 years are replaced by 2 women. What is the average age of 2 women?

- (a) 25 years (b) 32 years
(c) 40 years (d) 30 years

26 The value of

$$\frac{243 \times 243 \times 243 + 357 \times 357 \times 357}{243 \times 243 - 243 \times 357 + 357 \times 357} \text{ is}$$

- (a) 4600 (b) 2300 (c) 600 (d) 8800

27 If $\frac{a}{4} - \frac{b}{6} = \frac{c}{7}$ then $\frac{a+b+c}{a} = ?$

- (a) $\frac{17}{4}$ (b) 31 (c) 27 (d) $\frac{11}{5}$

28 15 litres of a mixture contains 20% alcohol and the rest water. If 3 litres of water be mixed in it, the percentage of alcohol in the new mixture will be

- (a) $16\frac{2}{3}\%$ (b) $15\frac{1}{4}\%$ (c) 20% (d) 25%

29 A started business with Rs. 4500 and was joined afterwards by B with Rs. 3000. When did B join if the profits at the end of the year were divided in the ratio of 2 : 1?

- (a) 5 months (b) 3 months (c) 4 months
(d) $2\frac{1}{2}$ months

30 A ship sails out to mark at the rate of 10 km/hr and sails back at the rate of 15 km/hr, what is his average rate of sailing?

- (a) 10 km/hr (b) 12 km/hr
(c) 15 km/hr (d) 22.5 km/hr

Study the following table carefully and answer the questions given below it

No. of employees working in various Departments of a factory

Year	Departments (No. of employees)				
	Produc- tion	Sales	Pur- chase	Accounts	Re- search
1985	150	15	65	45	70
1986	225	30	55	62	70
1987	450	45	100	40	73
1988	460	83	29	108	70
1989	500	85	35	128	73
1990	510	70	41	125	75

31 In which department the number of employees (approx.) remained the same during the years 1985 to 1990?

- (a) Accounts (b) Research
(c) Sales (d) Purchase

32 In which year, the total number of employees reached (approx.) twice the total number of employees the factory had in the year 1985?

- (a) 1987 (b) 1988 (c) 1989 (d) 1990

33 In which year, the number of employees working in production department was less than 50% of total employees?

- (a) 1985 (b) 1988 (c) 1990 (d) 1989

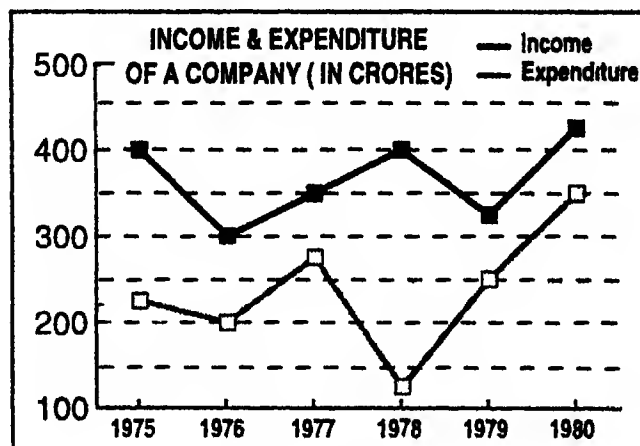
34 In which of the following year each department had more number of employees than it had in the immediately preceding year?

- (a) 1989 (b) 1990 (c) 1988 (d) 1986

35 In which of the following years, the number of employees was same as in that in 1990

- (a) 1988 (b) 1989 (c) 1986 (d) 1987

Study the graph carefully and answer the questions based on it



36 What was the percentage decrease in income from 1975 to 1976?

- (a) 30 (b) 35 (c) 25 (d) 40

37 The total expenditure of which of the following pairs of years was equal to an income of 1980?

- (a) 1975 and 1976 (b) 1978 and 1979
(c) 1977 and 1978

38 In how many of given years was the expenditure more than the average expenditure of given years?

- (a) 3 (b) 4 (c) 2 (d) 1

39 What was the percentage increase in expenditure from 1979 to 1980?

- (a) 35 (b) 40 (c) 32 (d) 73

40 What was the ratio of income to expenditure in 1978?

- (a) 5 : 12 (b) 12 : 5 (c) 5 : 16 (d) 16 : 5

41. The increase in a quantity x by $y\%$ is:
 (a) $x \times \frac{y}{100}$ (b) $x \times (\frac{100+y}{100})$
 (c) $x \times (\frac{100+y}{100})$ (d) $x \times (\frac{y}{100} + y)$
42. By selling a table for Rs 56, a man gets a percentage of profit equal to the cost price. The cost price of table is:
 (a) Rs 40 (b) Rs 38 (c) Rs 50 (d) Rs 28
43. In an auditorium $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the seats were occupied by girls and $\frac{3}{8}$ by boys. What percentage of the audience consisted of these children?
 (a) 58% (b) 47% (c) 62.5% (d) 72%
44. The time at which the interest of any sum of money at 10% be one fourth of its sum is:
 (a) $2\frac{1}{2}$ yrs (b) 4 yrs (c) $3\frac{1}{2}$ yrs
 (d) 2 yrs
45. Rs 2080 is invested in a stock quoted at Rs 104. This produces an annual income of Rs 160. The rate of interest is:
 (a) 7% (b) 8% (c) 9% (d) 4.5%
46. A swimmer goes against and down stream with 6 km/hr and 12 km/hr respectively. His speed in still water (in km/hr) is:
 (a) 9 km/hr (b) 10 km/hr (c) 5.6 km/hr
 (d) 8 km/hr
47. The set of natural nos. is not closed with respect to:
 (a) addition (b) multiplication
 (c) subtraction (d) None of these
48. Solution set of the equation $x^2 + 4 = 0$ belongs to the set:
 (a) N (b) I (c) R
 (d) None of these
49. The $\{x \in R : |x - 1| \leq 3\}$ is the same as:
 (a) $-2 \leq x \leq 4$ (b) $-2 < x < 4$
 (c) $-1 \leq x \leq 3$ (d) $-4 \leq x \leq 4$
50. Two oxen and three horses cost Rs 650 and 3 oxen and 2 horses cost Rs 600. The total cost of 5 oxen and 5 horses is:
 (a) Rs 1250 (b) Rs 1460
 (c) Rs 1500 (d) Rs 1020

ANSWERS & EXPLANATIONS

1. (b) Units digit in 7^4 is 1 \therefore Units digit in 7^{68} is 1
 \therefore Units digit in 7^{71} is 3
 $(\because 1 \times 7 \times 7 \times 7 \text{ gives unit digit } 3)$
 \therefore Every power of 6 will give unit digit 6
 $\therefore 6^{69}$ gives unit digit 6
 Units digit in 3^4 is 1 \therefore Units digit in 3^{84} is 1
 \therefore Units digit in $7^{71} \times 6^{69} \times 3^{85}$ is 4
 $[3 \times 6 \times 3 \text{ gives units digit } 4]$

2. (b) G.E. $= (1 - \frac{1}{2}) + (\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3}) + (\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4}) + \dots + (\frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+1})$
 $= 1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \dots + \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+1}$
 $= (1 - \frac{1}{n+1}) = \frac{n}{n+1} < 1$
3. (c) For least value of $2y - 3x$, take the least value of y and the greatest value of x
 \therefore Reqd. value $= 2 \times 1 - 3 \times 2 = -4$
4. (b) 5. (a)
6. (a) On the 2nd day, he earns $= 1 \times 2 = \text{Rs } (2)^{2-1}$
 On 3rd day he earns $= 2 \times 2 = 2^2 = 2^{(3-1)}$
 On 10th day he earns $2^{10-1} = 2^9$
7. (c) Let the no. of correct answers be x
 \therefore No. of incorrect answers $= 65 - x$
 $4x - (65 - x) = 135 \therefore x = 40$
8. (b) Leela's age after 10 years $(6 + 4 + 10) = 20$ years
 Sheela's father's age after 10 years $= 40$ years
 Sheela's father's present age $= 30$ years
 \therefore Sheela's present age $= \frac{1}{5} \times 30 = 6$ years
9. (a)
10. (b) Let the original price be Rs x
 \therefore Reduced price per kg $= \frac{79}{100}x$
 $\therefore \frac{100}{79x} - \frac{100}{x} = 10.5 \therefore x = \frac{2100}{10.5 \times 79}$
 $\frac{100}{79x} - \frac{100}{x} = 10.5 \therefore x = \frac{2100}{10.5 \times 79}$
 Reduced price/kg $= \frac{79}{100} \times \frac{2100}{79 \times 10.5} = \text{Rs } 2$
11. (c) Population after 2 years $= 8000 (1 + \frac{15}{100})^2 = 10580$
12. (a) Excess of B's height over A's
 $= (\frac{20}{100 - 20} \times 100)\% = 25\%$
13. (c) New Price $= 110\%$ of 80% of 9000
 $= \frac{110}{100} \times \frac{80}{100} \times 9000 = \text{Rs } 7920$
14. (b) Let C.P. = Rs 100 S.P. = Rs 110
 Let M.P. be Rs x
 88% of $x = 110 \therefore x = 125$
 He should mark 25% above C.P.
15. (c) Reqd. gain% $= \frac{40}{960} \times 100 = 4\frac{1}{6}\%$
16. (b) Let one diagonal $= x$
 \therefore Another diagonal $= \frac{80}{100}x = \frac{4x}{5}$ units
 Area of a rhombus $= \frac{1}{2} (x \times \frac{4x}{5}) = \frac{2}{5}x^2$
 $= \frac{2}{5} (\text{Square of longer diagonal})$
17. (c) Perimeter of a rectangle $= 2.5 \text{ km} = 2500 \text{ m}$
 $[\because \text{Out of all rects, area of square is maximum}]$
 \therefore Its side $= \frac{2500}{4} = 625 \text{ m}$
 Area $= (625)^2 = 390625 \text{ m}^2 = 39.0625 \text{ hectare}$
18. (a) $\pi (R^2 - r^2) h = 748$ or $\pi (9^2 - r^2) \times 14 = 748 \text{ cm}^3$

$$\therefore r = 8 \text{ cm}$$

$$\text{Thickness} = R - r = 9 - 8 = 1 \text{ cm}$$

$$19. (c) \text{ Distance travelled in 6 hrs} = 6 \times 45 \times 1000 \text{ m}$$

$$\therefore \text{No. of poles} = \frac{6 \times 45 \times 1000}{60} = 4500$$

$$20. (a) A = 2B \text{ or } B = A/2$$

$$\text{In 1 day } A + B \text{ can do a work} = \frac{1}{8}$$

$$\therefore A + A/2 \text{ i.e. } 3A/2 \text{ can do work in one day} = \frac{1}{8}$$

$$\text{or } A\text{'s one day's work} = \frac{1}{8} \times \frac{2}{3} = \frac{1}{12}$$

$$\therefore A \text{ can alone do the work in 12 days}$$

$$21. (b) \text{ Let the sum be Rs 100}$$

$$\therefore \text{S.I.} = \frac{100 \times 4 \times 8}{100} = \text{Rs } 32$$

$$\text{Difference} = 100 - 32 = 68$$

$$\text{If the difference is Rs 252 then}$$

$$\text{sum} = 252 \times \frac{100}{68} = \text{Rs } 400$$

$$22. (c) \text{ Let } P = \text{Rs } 100$$

$$\therefore \text{C.I.} = 100 \left(1 + \frac{5}{100}\right)^2 - 100 = \text{Rs } \frac{41}{4}$$

$$\text{If C.I. is Rs } \frac{41}{4} \text{ then } P = \text{Rs } 100$$

$$\text{If C.I. is Rs } 410 \text{ then } P = 100 \times \frac{4}{41} \times 410 = \text{Rs } 4000$$

$$23. (c) \text{ Angle covered in 1 sec} = \frac{360}{60} = 6^\circ$$

$$\therefore \text{Angle covered in 5 seconds} = 6 \times 5 = 30^\circ$$

$$\therefore \text{Reqd angle} = 360^\circ + 30^\circ = 390^\circ$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \therefore \text{Clock gains 5 minutes every hour} \\ & \therefore \text{it gains 5 seconds every minute} \end{aligned}$$

$$24. (a) \text{ S.P. of 1 orange} = \text{Re } \frac{1}{11}, 90\% \text{ of C.P.} = \frac{1}{11}$$

$$\therefore \text{C.P.} = \frac{1}{11} \times \frac{100}{90}$$

$$\text{S.P. of 1 orange} = 110\% \text{ of C.P.}$$

$$= \frac{110}{100} \times \frac{1}{11} \times \frac{100}{90} = \text{Re } \frac{1}{9}$$

$$\therefore \text{He should sell 9 oranges for a Re}$$

$$25. (d) \text{ Total ages of two women} = 20 + 24 + (2 \times 8) = 60$$

$$\therefore \text{Average age of 2 women} = 60 \div 2 = 30 \text{ years}$$

$$26. (c) \frac{a^3 + b^3}{a^2 - ab + b^2} = a + b \therefore \text{Value} = 243 + 357 = 600$$

$$27. (a) \frac{a}{4} = \frac{b}{6} = \frac{c}{7} = k \therefore a = 4k, b = 6k, c = 7k$$

$$\frac{a+b+c}{a} = \frac{4k+6k+7k}{4k} = \frac{17}{4}$$

$$28. (a) \text{ Alcohol in 15 litres} = \frac{20}{100} \times 15 = 3 \text{ litres}$$

$$\% \text{age of alcohol in new mixture}$$

$$= \left(\frac{3}{15+3} \times 100\right)\% = 16\frac{2}{3}\%$$

$$29. (b) A\text{'s investment for 1 month} = 4500 \times 12 = \text{Rs } 54000$$

$$\text{As B gets } \frac{1}{2} \text{ profit, his investment for 1 month}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \times 54000 = \text{Rs } 27000$$

$$\therefore B\text{'s investment is used for } \frac{27000}{3000} = 9 \text{ months}$$

$$\therefore B \text{ joined } A \text{ after } 12 - 9 = 3 \text{ months}$$

$$30. (b) \text{ Average speed for total journey} = \frac{2xy}{x+y}$$

$$= \frac{2 \times 10 \times 15}{10+15} = 12 \text{ km/hr}$$

$$31. (b) \quad 32. (a)$$

$$33. (a) \text{ In 1989, the no. of employees in production was } 150 \text{ while total no. was } 345$$

$$150 < 50\% \text{ of } 345$$

$$34. (a) \quad 35. (b) \quad 36. (c) \quad 37. (a) \quad 38. (a)$$

$$39. (b) \quad 40. (d) \quad 41. (a)$$

$$42. (a) \text{ Let C.P.} = \text{Rs } x \therefore x + \frac{x}{100} \times x = 56$$

$$\therefore x = \text{Rs } 40 \quad (\because x \neq 0)$$

$$43. (c) \text{ Let total seats be } x$$

$$\therefore \text{Reqd. \%age} = \frac{\frac{x}{4} + \frac{3x}{8}}{x} \times 100 = 62.5$$

$$44. (a) T = \frac{\frac{P}{4} \times 100}{P \times 10} = \frac{5}{2} = 2\frac{1}{2} \text{ years}$$

$$45. (b) \text{ Let the rate of interest be } x\%$$

$$\therefore \frac{x}{104} \times 2080 = \text{Rs } 160$$

$$x = 8$$

$$(\because \text{By investing Rs } 104, \text{ he gets a stock worth Rs } 100)$$

$$46. (a) \text{ Let his speed in still water be } x \text{ km/hr and speed of stream be } y \text{ km/hr}$$

$$x + y = 12 \dots (i)$$

$$x - y = 6 \text{ km/hr} \dots (ii)$$

$$\text{Solving (i) and (ii)}$$

$$x = 9 \text{ km/hr}$$

$$47. (c) \quad 48. (d)$$

$$49. (a) |x-1| \leq 3$$

$$\therefore -3 \leq x-1 \leq 3 \Rightarrow -2 \leq x \leq 4$$

$$50. (a) \text{ Let cost of a horse be Rs } x \text{ and that of an oxen be Rs } y$$

$$\therefore 3x + 2y = 650 \dots (i)$$

$$2x + 3y = 600 \dots (ii)$$

$$\text{Solving (i) and (ii)}$$

$$x = 150, y = 100$$

$$\therefore 5x + 5y = 5(x+y) = 5(150+100) = \text{Rs } 1250$$

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

National Defence Academy Exam, 17th Sept '95

USAGE

Spotting Errors (Items 1 to 6)

Directions:

(i) In this section 6 sentences are given. Each sentence has three parts, indicated by (a), (b) and (c). Read each sentence to find out whether there is an error. If you find an error in any one of the parts (a, b, c), indicate your response by blackening the letter related to that part in the Answer Sheet provided. If a sentence has no error, indicate this by blackening 'd' which stands for "No error".

(ii) Errors may belong to grammar, usage or idiom. Examples P and Q have been solved for you.

P. My friend and myself(a) study together(b) during holidays.(c) No error.(d)

Q. The rice from Dehradun is(a) more superior(b) to that of Saharanpur.(c) No error.(d)

Solution:

The correct answer for P is letter 'd' because the sentence has no mistake in it. The correct answer for Q is 'b' because the mistake in the sentence is in the part carrying the letter 'b'.

Now attempt items 1 to 6.

1. "I'm the last person(a) to dream of causing him any harm", (b) said an agitated Armstrong to the inspector.(c) No error.(d)

2. Meerabai was sent away from her home (a) because she spend most of the time(b) in the company of holy men.(c) No error.(d)

3. On hearing the news over the radio that(a) India has won the hockey match,(b) I jumped with joy.(c) No error.(d)

4. My uncle frequently goes to abroad(a) on business(b) by air.(c) No error.(d)

5. Mr Sunil Pawar, our representative,(a) he will attend the meeting(b) on our behalf.(c) No error.(d)

6. The manager called the clerk and said whether(a) he was in the habit of(b) sleeping at home as well.(c) No error.(d)

Sentence Improvement

(Items 7 to 12)

Directions:

Look at the underlined part of each sentence. Below each sentence are given three possible substitutions for the underlined part. If one of them (a), (b) or (c) is better than the underlined part, indicate your response on the Answer Sheet against the corresponding letter (a), (b) or (c). If none of the substitutions improve the sentence, indicate (d) as your response on the Answer Sheet. Thus a 'No improvement' response will be signified by the letter (d). Examples R and S have been solved for you.

R. The young child sung a very sweet song.

- (a) singed the
- (b) singed
- (c) sang a
- (d) No improvement

S. I have already read this book twice.

- (a) I already twice have read this book.
- (b) I twice have already read this book.
- (c) I have twice already read this book.
- (d) No improvement.

Explanation:

For item R, the correct sentence should read, "The young child sang a very sweet song". 'c' is therefore, the correct answer.

Item S is a correct sentence. None of the changes suggested will improve it. 'd' is therefore, the correct answer.

Errors may be in grammar, appropriate word usage or idioms. There may be a necessary word missing or there may be a word which should be removed.

Now attempt items 7 to 12.

7. Would you find me absent, please don't forget to leave a message behind.

- (a) Should
- (b) Unless
- (c) As
- (d) No improvement

8. Mother always finds faults with the maid servant.

- (a) is finding faults
- (b) finds fault
- (c) find faults
- (d) No improvement

9. You ought not to have gone there, but you did.

- (a) go
- (b) have been
- (c) be going
- (d) No improvement

10. Mary met with an accident. She didn't just twist her leg, she has broken it.

- (a) had broken it.
- (b) breaks it.
- (c) broke it too.
- (d) No improvement.

11. What are needed are not large houses but small cottages.

- (a) was
- (b) were
- (c) is
- (d) No improvement

12. It was hard to believe that he was dead for two years.

- (a) has been dead
- (b) is dead
- (c) had been dead
- (d) No improvement

Synonyms (Items 13 to 17)

Directions:

In this Section you find a number of sentences, parts of which are underlined. You may also find only a group of words which is underlined. For each underlined part, four words/phrases are listed below. Choose the word/phrase nearest in meaning to the underlined part and blacken the corresponding space on the Answer Sheet.

Example 'E' is solved for you.

E. His style is quite transparent.

- (a) verbose
- (b) involved
- (c) lucid
- (d) witty

Explanation: In item 'E' the word "lucid" is nearest in meaning to the word "transparent". So 'c' is the correct answer.

Now attempt items 13 to 17.

13. He gave such a vivid description of the house we wanted to rent that we did not have to look at it.

- (a) confused
- (b) detailed
- (c) simple
- (d) clear

14. It is so gratifying to know that there are not many small-pox cases these days.

- (a) happy
- (b) satisfying
- (c) surprising
- (d) pleasing

15. A civilized Roman banquet was a thing of great richness, style and decorum.

- (a) table
- (b) ornament
- (c) feast
- (d) palace

16. Last evening I was held up at the meeting.

- (a) delayed
- (b) stopped
- (c) detained
- (d) kept

17. Now the fury of the demonstrators turned against the machines.

- (a) acrimony
- (b) rage
- (c) passion
- (d) asperity

Antonyms (Items 18 to 22)

Directions:

In this Section each item consists of a word or a phrase which is underlined in the sentence given. It is followed by four words or phrases. Select the word or phrase which is closest to the opposite in meaning of the underlined word or phrase.

Example "F" has been solved for you.

F. Lucy is a smart girl.

- (a) lazy
- (b) active
- (c) indecent
- (d) casual

Explanation: The word "lazy" is nearest to the opposite in meaning of the word "smart". So 'a' is the correct answer.

Now attempt items 18 to 22

18. There was a marginal increase in his pay.

- (a) peripheral
- (b) significant
- (c) negligible
- (d) unforeseen

19. The geologists declared that the fossil was authentic.

- (a) fake
- (b) beautiful
- (c) old
- (d) new

20. The committee set about making provisional arrangements for the annual conference.

- (a) permanent
- (b) lasting
- (c) abiding
- (d) unconditional

21. He climbed up a stationary wagon.

- (a) standing
- (b) shunting
- (c) speeding
- (d) moving

22. It is surprising to find her condoning such an act.

- (a) forbidding
- (b) disliking
- (c) condemning
- (d) disparaging

COMPREHENSION

(Items 23 to 34)

Directions:

In this Section you have three short passages. After each passage you will find several questions based on the passage. First, read Passage I, and answer the questions based on it. Then go on to the other passages.

Examples 'I' and 'J' are solved for you.

Passage

In our approach to life, be it pragmatic or otherwise, a basic fact that confronts us squarely and unmistakably is the desire for peace, security and happiness. Different forms of life at different levels of existence make up the teeming denizens of this earth of ours. And, no matter whether they belong to the higher groups such as human beings or to the lower groups such as animals, all beings primarily seek peace, comfort and security. Life is as dear to a mute creature as it is to a man. Even the lowliest insect strives for protection against dangers that threaten its life. Just as each one of us wants to live and not to die, so do all other creatures.

I. The author's main point is that

- (a) different forms of life are found on earth
- (b) different levels of existence are possible in nature
- (c) peace and security are the chief goals of all living beings
- (d) even the weakest creature struggles to preserve its life

J. Which one of the following assumptions or steps is essential in developing the author's position?

- (a) All forms of life have a single overriding goal
- (b) The will to survive of a creature is identified with a desire for peace
- (c) All beings are divided into higher and lower groups
- (d) A parallel is drawn between happiness and life, and pain and death

Explanation:

The idea which represents the author's main point is 'peace and security are the chief goals of all living beings', which is response (c). So 'c' is the correct answer.

The best assumption underlying the passage is 'The will to survive of a creature is identified with a desire for peace', which is response (b). So 'b' is the correct answer.

Now attempt items 23 to 34.

Passage I

If the census tells us that India has two or three hundred languages, it also tells us, I believe, that Germany has about fifty or sixty languages. I do not remember anyone pointing out this fact in proof of the disunity or disparity of Germany. As a matter of fact, a census mentions all manner of petty languages, sometimes spoken by a few thousand persons only; and often dialects are classed for scientific purposes as different languages. India seems to me to have surprisingly few languages, considering its area. Compared to the same area in Europe, it is far more closely allied in regard to language, but because of widespread illiteracy, common standards have not developed and dialects have formed. The principal languages of India are Hindustani (of the two varieties, Hindi and Urdu), Bengali, Gujarati, Marathi, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kannada. If Assamese, Oriya, Sindhi, Kashmiri, Pushtu and Punjabi are added, the whole country is covered except for some hill and forest tribes. Of these the Indo-Aryan languages, which cover the whole north, centre and west of India, are closely allied; and the southern Dravidian languages, though different, have been greatly influenced by Sanskrit, and are full of Sanskrit words.

23. One of the reasons why there are many dialects in India is:

- (a) illiteracy
- (b) population
- (c) more communities
- (d) vast area

24. In the passage the author

- (a) defends the multilingual situation of India
- (b) classifies the Indian languages
- (c) compares India with Germany
- (d) criticises the illiteracy in India

25. Which one of the following statements according to this passage is true?

- (a) India has as many languages as Europe does
- (b) India is a vast country with not too many languages
- (c) Indian languages are not as well developed as those of Europe
- (d) India has far too many languages

26. The Dravidian languages have been greatly influenced by Sanskrit. This

- (a) makes them superior to the Indo-Aryan languages
- (b) makes them inferior to the Indo-Aryan languages
- (c) makes them very different from the other Indian languages
- (d) brings them close to the Indo-Aryan languages

Passage II

An Englishman living near Sheffield had a most unlucky day's fishing. He was standing on a low bridge when he had the misfortune to knock his tin

of bait into the river. Leaning over the side of the bridge, he tried to hook the tin and pull it out of the river. As he did so, his car keys fell out of his pocket and disappeared in the water.

Feeling thoroughly annoyed with himself and his luck, the fisherman leaned over the bridge to try to see where his keys had gone. As he did so the bridge collapsed and he fell into the river. This was the last straw. The fisherman crawled out of the river and went back to his car. There he discovered that he had locked the doors and could not get in. His anti-thief lock had immobilised his car. There was nothing left for him to do but walk sadly home.

27. The Englishman felt annoyed with himself because

- (a) he knocked his tin of bait and dropped the car keys into the river
- (b) the bridge on which he was standing was low
- (c) he was leaning over the side of the bridge and trying to hook the tin

(d) his tin of bait and car keys were not visible from the bridge

28. How did the tin of bait get into the river?

- (a) There is no mention of it in the passage
- (b) It fell in when the bridge broke
- (c) The fisherman knocked it in accidentally
- (d) It fell in when the fisherman fell in

29. When did the fisherman first lean over the bridge?

- (a) When it broke
- (b) When the bait fell in
- (c) When his keys fell in
- (d) Soon after he started fishing

30. What was the last straw according to the passage?

- (a) The collapse of the bridge
- (b) The loss of his bait
- (c) The loss of his car keys
- (d) His inability to get into the car


Balance questions and complete answers will appear in April '96 issue

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GENERAL AWARENESS

National Defence Academy examination, 17th September, 1995

1. If the energy 'E' of a photon is equal to $h\nu$, where ν is the frequency and 'h' is Planck's constant, then the dimension of Planck's constant is:

- (a) $M^1 L^2 T^{-3}$ (b) $M^0 L^2 T^{-1}$
(c) $M^1 L^2 T^{-1}$ (d) $M^1 L^2 T^{-2}$

2. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer by using the codes given below the lists:

List I (Items)	List II (Units of length)
A. Distance between Earth and Stars	1. Microns
B. Interatomic distances in a solid	2. Angstroms
C. Size of the nucleus	3. Light years
D. Wavelength of Infrared laser	4. Fermi
	5. Kilometers

Codes:

- (a) A B C D
5 4 2 1
(b) A B C D
3 2 4 1
(c) A B C D
5 2 4 3
(d) A B C D
3 4 1 2

3. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R):

Assertion (A): While taking a sharp turn at high speed a truck load of fodder overturns more frequently than a truck load of iron beams.

Reason (R): The centre of gravity of truck carrying fodder is lowered and the vertical line through its C.G. falls outside the base on a sharp turn, while for a truck carrying iron beams this does not happen.

In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
(b) Both A and R are true but R is not a correct explanation of A
(c) A is true but R is false
(d) A is false but R is true

4. Mosquitoes can lay eggs on the surface of water. But when oil is sprinkled on the surface of water, mosquitoes cannot lay eggs because:

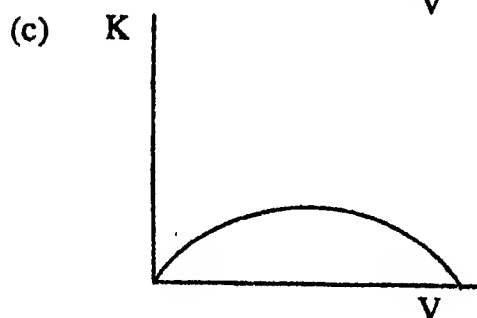
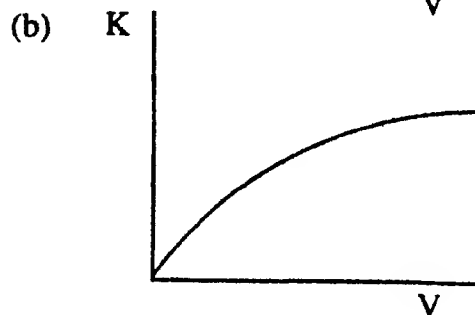
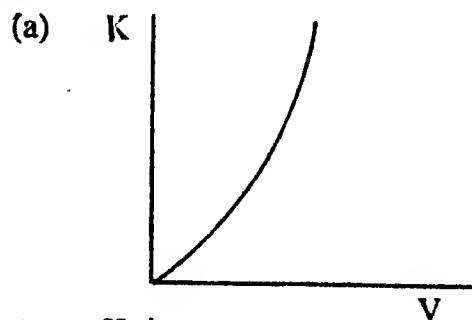
- (a) surface tension of water is increased
(b) viscosity of water increases

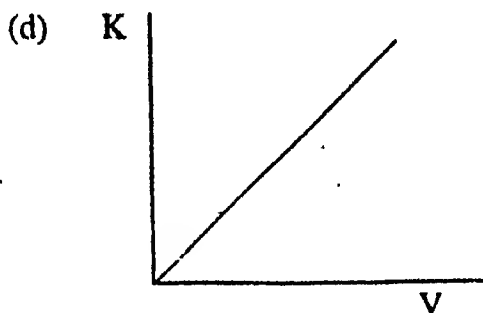
- (c) surface tension of water is decreased
(d) water-oil mixture acts as a mosquito repellant

5. Which one of the following statements regarding artificial satellite of the earth is *incorrect*?

- (a) The orbital velocity depends on the mass of the satellite
(b) A minimum velocity of 8 km/sec. is required by a satellite to orbit quite close to the earth
(c) The period of revolution is large if the radius of its orbit is large
(d) The height of a geostationary satellite is about 36000 km from earth

6. Which one of the following diagrams illustrates the relation between kinetic energy (K) and the velocity (V) of a body?





7. A body executing simple harmonic motion while passing through its mean position will have:

- (a) kinetic energy only
- (b) potential energy only
- (c) both kinetic and potential energies
- (d) minimum acceleration

8. A body loses $\frac{1}{5}$ of its weight when fully immersed in water. What is the density of the body?

- (a) 6 (b) 5 (c) 4 (d) 1

9. Which of the following are factors upon which the amount of heat radiated from a body depends?

- 1. Excess temperature of the body over surrounding.
- 2. Density of the body.
- 3. Exposed area of the body.
- 4. Nature of the surface of the body.

Choose the correct answer from the codes given below:

Codes:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 1, 2 and 4
- (c) 1, 3 and 4 (d) 2, 3 and 4

10. The human eye has essentially a lens and a retina used as a screen. Which one of the following statements is true about this combination of lens and retina?

- (a) It is a convex lens with variable focal length and fixed distance between the retina and the lens
- (b) It is a convex lens of constant focal length and its distance from the retina is variable
- (c) It is a convex lens of constant focal length at a fixed distance from the retina
- (d) It is a concave lens of adjustable focal length at a fixed distance from the retina

11. Some of the following expressions represent the equation of a waveform (symbols have the usual meaning)

- 1. $A \sin \frac{2\pi x}{\lambda} \sin \omega t$ 2. $A \cos \frac{2\pi x}{\lambda} \sin \omega t$
- 3. $A \cos \frac{2\pi x}{\lambda} \cos \omega t$ 4. $A \sin \frac{2\pi x}{\lambda} \cos \omega t$
- 5. $A \sin \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} (ct - x)$ 6. $A \cos \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} (ct - x)$

Those which represent progressive waves include:

- (a) 1 and 2 (b) 3 and 4
- (c) 5 and 6 (d) 2 and 4

12. Sound waves travel fastest in:

- (a) brass (b) hydrogen
- (c) oxygen (d) water

13. The wavelength of the light of violet colour is:

- (a) 4 microns (b) 0.4 micron
- (c) 0.04 micron (d) 0.004 micron

14. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R):

Assertion (A): A dentist uses a concave mirror to examine a small cavity.

Reason (R): A concave mirror forms real images for all positions of an object.

In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not a correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true but R is false
- (d) A is false but R is true

15. Which of the following statements are NOT correct?

- 1. Magnetic monopoles do not exist.
- 2. Two iron bars which are magnetised always attract.
- 3. A wire freely suspended in a magnetic field orients itself parallel to the field.
- 4. Copper is diamagnetic and aluminium is paramagnetic.

Choose the answer from the following codes:

Codes:

- (a) 1, 3 and 4 (b) 2 and 4
- (c) 2 and 3 (d) 2, 3 and 4

16. Which of the following statements are correct regarding ferromagnetic materials?

- 1. They contain iron.
- 2. They exhibit hysteresis.
- 3. They are characterised by atoms with permanent dipole moments.

Choose the answer from the codes given below:

Codes:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 1 and 2
- (c) 2 and 3 (d) 1 and 3

17. When a soap bubble is charged:

- (a) its radius increases (b) its radius decreases
- (c) its radius remains unchanged
- (d) it collapses

18. A capacitor of capacitance $10 \mu\text{F}$ has been charged to 100 volts. It is now connected in parallel to another uncharged capacitor C. The common potential becomes 40 volts. The capacitance of the other capacitor C is:

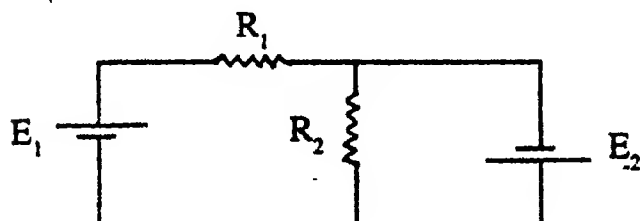
- (a) $5 \mu\text{F}$ (b) $10 \mu\text{F}$
- (c) $15 \mu\text{F}$ (d) $20 \mu\text{F}$

19. Which one of the following statements regarding Shooting-Stars is incorrect?

- (a) They are meteors
 (b) They are the debris which got separated from a comet
 (c) They emit light due to extremely high temperature caused by friction while they are passing through earth's atmosphere
 (d) They are a kind of a star

20. Two resistances R_1 and R_2 are joined as shown in the figure, to two batteries of emf E_1 and E_2 . If E_2 is short-circuited the current through R_1 is:

- (a) E_1/R_1 (b) E_2/R_1
 (c) E_2/R_2 (d) $E_1/(R_2 + R_1)$



21. Which one of the following is a semiconductor?
 (a) Gallium (b) Indium phosphide
 (c) Antimony (d) Strontium

22. An electric bulb, rated at 100 watts 230 volts, is connected to a source of 230 volts a.c. mains. The bulb is burned for 100 days at the rate of 10 hours per day. What is the cost of burning the bulb if 1 unit of electricity costs 50 paise?

- (a) Rs 100 (b) Rs 10
 (c) Rs 50 (d) Rs 23

23. Two electric bulbs whose resistances are in the ratio 1 : 2 are connected in parallel to a constant voltage source. The power dissipated in them will have the ratio:
 (a) 1 : 4 (b) 1 : 1 (c) 2 : 1 (d) 1 : 2

24. In a nuclear chain reaction

- (a) a U-235 nucleus is bombarded with a fast moving alpha particle
 (b) a U-235 nucleus is bombarded with a fast moving neutron
 (c) a U-238 nucleus is bombarded with a slow moving neutron
 (d) a U-235 nucleus is bombarded with a slow moving neutron

25. The 1994 Nobel Prize in Physics was awarded for the work in the field of:

- (a) Top quarks (b) Infrared astronomy
 (c) Neutron physics (d) High T_c superconductivity

26. Which one of the following elements of Group V forms the most basic oxide?

- (a) N (b) As (c) Sb (d) Bi

27. Which one of the following is an example of a compound?

- (a) Marble (b) Brass
 (c) Graphite (d) Petroleum coke

28. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer by using the codes given below the lists:

List I (Metal)	List II (Symbol)
A. Silver	1. Pb
B. Gold	2. Ag
C. Mercury	3. Sn
D. Lead	4. Au
	5. Hg

Codes:

(a)	A	B	C	D
	5	4	2	3
(b)	A	B	C	D
	2	4	5	1
(c)	A	B	C	D
	5	2	4	3
(d)	A	B	C	D
	1	4	5	2

29. Consider the following statements:

In the reaction $2\text{KClO}_3 \rightarrow 2\text{KCl} + 3\text{O}_2$, with respect to KClO_3

1. K is oxidised.
 2. Cl is reduced.
 3. O is oxidised.
 4. O is reduced.

Which of the above are correct? Choose the answer from the codes given below:

Codes:

- (a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 and 3
 (c) 3 and 4 (d) 1 and 4

30. Which one of the following laws is explained in the formation of oxides of lead that is PbO , PbO_2 and Pb_3O_4 ?

- (a) Law of conservation of mass
 (b) Law of definite proportions
 (c) Law of multiple proportions
 (d) Dalton's Law

31. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R):

Assertion (A): Water is a good solvent for many salts.

Reason (R): The dielectric constant of water is high.

In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
 (b) Both A and R are true but R is not a correct explanation of A
 (c) A is true but R is false
 (d) A is false but R is true

32. When the spins of the two nuclei are parallel in the hydrogen molecule, it is known as:

- (a) para hydrogen (b) ortho hydrogen
 (c) atomic hydrogen (d) nascent hydrogen

33. The oxidation number of Mn in K_2MnO_4 is:

- (a) +7 (b) +6 (c) +4 (d) +2

34. The molecule BF_3 is a:

- (a) Brönsted acid (b) Lewis acid
(c) Lewis base (d) Salt

35. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R):

Assertion (A): Graphite is used as lubricant.

Reason (R): Graphite is soft and a good conductor.

In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
(b) Both A and R are true but R is not a correct explanation of A
(c) A is true but R is false
(d) A is false but R is true
36. Which of the following are true of fertilizer?
1. It supplies nutrients to the plants.
 2. It kills the pests.
 3. It produces plant growth hormones.
 4. It adjusts the soil pH and increases the crop yield.

Choose the correct answer from the codes given below:

Codes:

- (a) 1 and 2 (b) 1 and 3
(c) 2 and 3 (d) 1 and 4

37. Which one of the following sets of constituents is used for making safety matches?

- (a) Carbon, sulphur and glue
(b) Potassium chlorate, Antimony sulphide and glue
(c) Lead dioxide, carbon and paraffin
(d) Silicon dioxide, sulphur and paraffin

38. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer by using the codes given below the lists:

List I
(Electronic configuration)

- A. $1s^2$
B. $1s^2 2s^2 2p^4$
C. $1s^2 2s^2$
D. $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^1$

List II
(Species)

1. Sodium
2. Nitrogen
3. Oxygen
4. Beryllium
5. Hydride ion

Codes:

- | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|---|---|
| (a) | A | B | C | D |
| | 4 | 3 | 5 | 1 |
| (b) | A | B | C | D |
| | 1 | 3 | 5 | 4 |
| (c) | A | B | C | D |
| | 5 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| (d) | A | B | C | D |
| | 5 | 3 | 4 | 1 |

39. If 0.40 g of a metal oxide on reduction gave 0.24 g of the metal, then the equivalent weight of the metal is:

- (a) 48 (b) 24 (c) 12 (d) 6

40. Which one of the following is the most inert configuration?

- (a) $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6$ (b) $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^1$
(c) $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^2$ (d) $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^2 3p^6$

41. Human beings belong to:

- (a) the order Primate under the class chordata
(b) the class Primate under phylum chordata
(c) the class Primate under phylum mammalia
(d) the class mammalia under phylum chordata

42. In the testis (gonad), the type(s) of cell division encountered is/are:

- (a) Mitosis (b) Meiosis
(c) Both mitosis and meiosis
(d) neither meiosis nor mitosis, but only reductional division

43. A flower that attracts a few kinds of insects regularly has an evolutionary advantage. Which of the following is/are the reason(s) for this?

1. Some species of insects eat the flower.
2. Little pollen would be lost on other plant species.
3. A plant need not produce much nectar.

Choose the correct answer from the codes given below:

Codes:

- (a) 1 alone (b) 2 alone
(c) 2 and 3 (d) 3 alone

44. Double fertilization in angiosperms results in:

- (a) one diploid cell only
(b) one triploid cell only
(c) one haploid cell and one triploid cell
(d) one diploid cell and one triploid cell

45. Athletes normally have larger sized hearts because:

- (a) their blood is thicker and requires more heart muscle to circulate it
(b) their cardiac output is regulated by change of cardiac rate during workout
(c) greater blood pressure developed during workout requires thicker heart walls
(d) their cardiac output is regulated by change of stroke volume during workout

46. Which one of the following items of food contains maximum roughage?

- (a) Banana (b) Cabbage
(c) Cane sugar (d) Fish

47. A person suffering from tetany is treated by the administration of:

- (a) Parahormone (b) Thyroxine
(c) Aldosterone (d) Calcitonin

48. In a cross between a tall (dominant) and a dwarf (recessive) plant, half of the progeny became tall and the other half dwarf, thereby indicating the genotypes of the parents as:

- (a) TT, Tt (b) TT, tt (c) Tt, tt (d) tt, tt

49. Which one of the following is *not* a mosquito borne disease?

- (a) Dengue fever (b) Filariasis
(c) Sleeping sickness (d) Malaria

50. The correct model of DNA structure is that proposed by:

- (a) Jacob and Monod (b) Watson and Crick
(c) Khorana (d) Baltimore and Temin

51. In India the standard time is fixed on the basis of standard meridian which passes through:

- (a) Puri (b) Kovalam
(c) Dwaraka (d) Allahabad

52. Solidification of Magma within the earth's crust leads to the formation of:

- (a) Sedimentary rocks (b) Plutonic rocks
(c) Volcanic rocks (d) Metamorphic rocks

53. Fumaroles are associated with the emission of:

- (a) water (b) gases
(c) magma (d) sulphur

54. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer by using the codes given below the lists:

List I
(Local winds)
A. Khamsin
B. Zonda
C. Santa Ana
D. Simoon

List II
(Areas)
1. Argentina
2. Egypt
3. Iran
4. California

Codes:

- (a) A B C D
1 2 4 3
(b) A B C D
2 4 3 1

- (c) A B C D
2 1 4 3
(d) A B C D
2 4 1 3

55. The hard pellets of ice which fall from cumulonimbus clouds are called:

- (a) snow (b) frost
(c) hail (d) fog

56. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R):

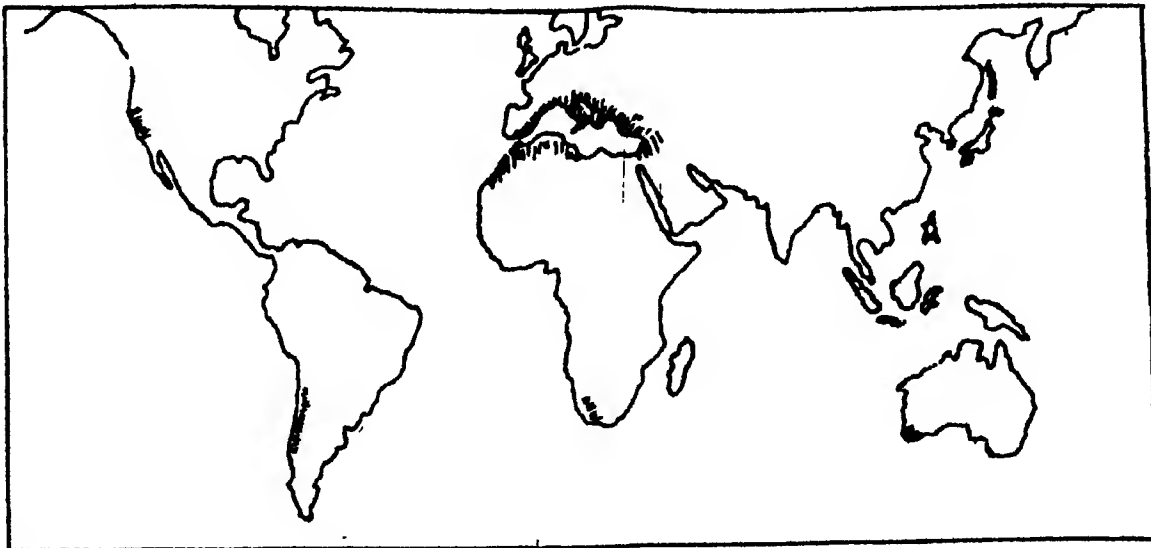
Assertion (A): Southern Victoria and Queensland are some of the richest cattle areas in Australia.

Reason (R): In these areas of Australia cattle-breeders are experts and they use advanced technology.

In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
(b) Both A and R are true but R is not a correct explanation of A
(c) A is true but R is false
(d) A is false but R is true

57. Consider the map given below:



The areas marked in the map are regions of:

- (a) folded mountains
(b) Mediterranean climate
(c) volcanic activities
(d) petroleum production

58. The Arabian Sea and the Persian Gulf are connected by the:

- (a) Strait of Bab el Mandeb
(b) Hormuz Strait
(c) Strait of Messina
(d) Palk Strait

59. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R):

Assertion (A): Sweden, Canada, Finland and Norway are the world's leading exporters of wood pulp.

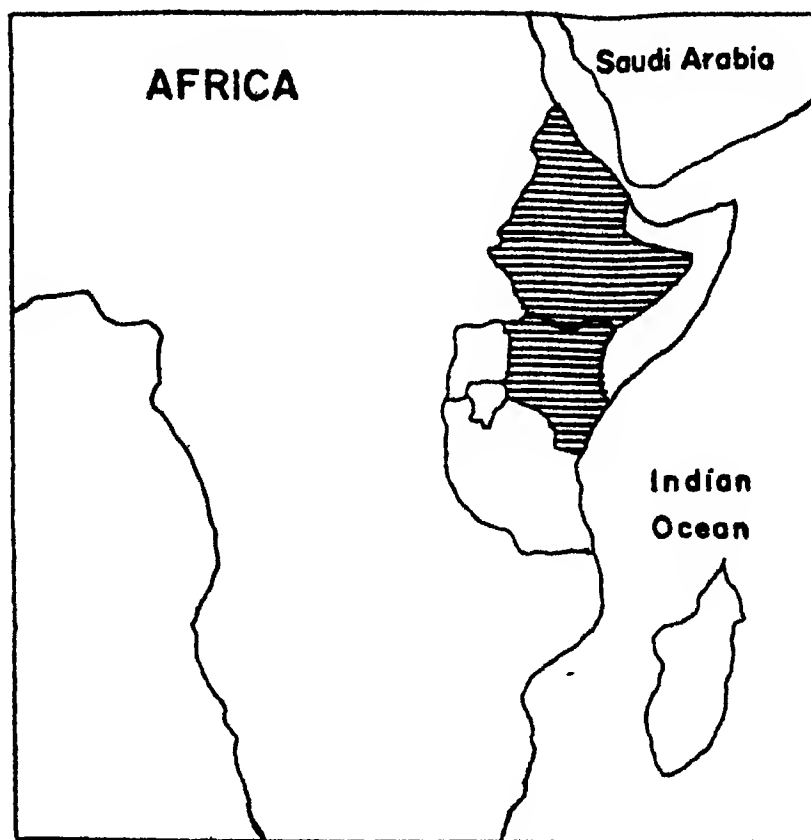
Reason (R): The coniferous woods are preferred for the manufacture of pulp.

In the context of the above two statements, which one

of the following is correct?

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not a correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true but R is false
- (d) A is false but R is true

60. Consider the map given below:



The shaded areas in the map represent

- (a) Ethiopia and Somalia
- (b) Ethiopia and Kenya
- (c) Kenya and Somalia
- (d) Uganda and Sudan

61. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer by using the codes given below the lists:

List I
(Mountains/Valleys/
Passes)

- A. Zaskar Range
- B. Kangra Valley
- C. Chumbi Valley
- D. Borghat Pass

List II
(Related States/
Roads)

- 1. Himachal Pradesh
- 2. Maharashtra
- 3. Kashmir
- 4. Sikkim
- 5. Hindustan-Tibet Road

Codes:

- | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|---|---|
| (a) | A | B | C | D |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| (b) | A | B | C | D |
| | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| (c) | A | B | C | D |
| | 5 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| (d) | A | B | C | D |
| | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 |

62. Which one of the following places has a higher range of daily temperature?

- (a) Delhi
- (b) Bombay
- (c) Madras

(a) Calcutta

63. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer by using the codes given below the lists:

List I

List II

- | | |
|------------------------|------------|
| A. Gandhi Sagar Dam | 1. Ravi |
| B. Nagarjuna Sagar Dam | 2. Tapti |
| C. Thein Dam | 3. Chambal |
| D. Kakrapara Dam | 4. Krishna |

Codes:

- | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|---|---|
| (a) | A | B | C | D |
| | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| (b) | A | B | C | D |
| | 3 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| (c) | A | B | C | D |
| | 2 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| (d) | A | B | C | D |
| | 4 | 3 | 1 | 2 |

64. Cement factories are largely concentrated in the western and southern region of India because:

- (a) the demand for cement is higher in these regions
- (b) high grade limestone and gypsum are abundantly found in these regions
- (c) cheap labour is available
- (d) transport is cheap

65. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R):

Assertion (A): Vegetation is the Index of climate.

Reason (R): Rainfall and temperature predominantly affect the type of vegetation.

In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct?

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not a correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true but R is false
- (d) A is false but R is true

66. Iron ore mines of Sundergarh, Mayurbhanj and Keonjhar are located in:

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| (a) Orissa | (b) Bihar |
| (c) West Bengal | (d) Maharashtra |

67. Which one of the following fruits produced in India has maximum export market, earning foreign exchange?

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| (a) Banana | (b) Mango |
| (c) Apple | (d) Orange |

68. An extremely narrow stretch of land joining two large land areas is known as:

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| (a) Peninsula | (b) Strait |
| (c) Bay | (d) Isthmus |

69. Fold mountains are formed as a result of:

- (a) vertical uplift of a landmass

(b) volcanic activity

(c) horizontal tensional forces

(d) horizontal compressional forces

70. The jet aeroplanes prefer to fly above tropopause because:

- (a) at this level the fall of temperature with height ceases to prevail
- (b) clouds are almost absent and there is very little dust or water vapour
- (c) of freedom from bumpy air pockets
- (d) they want to get out of the gravitational pull of the earth in order to increase their speed

71. The Dasyus mentioned in the Vedic literature were:

- (a) the lowly placed people in society
- (b) traders, craftsmen and farmers
- (c) the rulers and warriors
- (d) the original inhabitants of India before the coming of Aryans

72. Who among the following was sent by Ashoka to Sri Lanka to preach Buddhism?

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| (a) Kautilya | (b) Pushyamitra |
| (c) Banabhatta | (d) Mahendra |

73. The National emblem of India has been adopted from:

- (a) the lion capitol of the Mauryas
- (b) the coins of the Guptas
- (c) the seals of Harappa
- (d) the Ajanta paintings

74. Harshvardhana was defeated by:

- (a) Mahendrarvarman
- (b) Vishnuvardhana
- (c) Ananthavarman Chotaganga
- (d) Pulakeshin II

75. The Delhi Sultanate ruler who moved the capital from Delhi to a new town which later came to be known as Agra was:

- (a) Muhammad-bin-Tughluq
- (b) Sikandar Lodi
- (c) Ala-ud-din Khilji
- (d) Iltutmish

76. The Home Rule Leagues were formed during the:

- (a) partition of Bengal
- (b) First World War
- (c) struggle following the Jallianwala Bagh massacre
- (d) Congress session of 1906

77. What is the correct chronological sequence of the following events?

1. The Khilafat Movement.
2. The Non-Cooperation Movement.
3. The Individual Civil Disobedience Movement.
4. The Bardoli Satyagraha.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| (a) 1, 2, 3, 4 | (b) 2, 4, 1, 3 |
|----------------|----------------|

- (c) 4, 1, 2, 3 (d) 3, 4, 2, 1
78. The Provisional Government of Independent India (Azad Hind) was formed at:
 (a) Singapore (b) Tokyo
 (c) Kuala Lampur (d) Jakarta
79. According to the Constitution of India, the Legislature of State consists of:
 (a) the Legislative Assembly
 (b) the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council where it exists
 (c) the Governor and the Legislative Assembly
 (d) the Governor, the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council where it exists
80. The Tenth Schedule of the Constitution of India relates to:
 (a) the national languages of India
 (b) administration of the scheduled and tribal areas
 (c) Judicial Review
 (d) Anti-defection Law
81. "The Boston Tea Party" took place in:
 (a) 1776 (b) 1774
 (c) 1773 (d) 1770
82. In the American War of Independence, the leader who was put in command of American forces was:
 (a) Thomas Jefferson
 (b) George Washington
 (c) Thomas Paine
 (d) Abraham Lincoln
83. "Man is born free, yet everywhere he is in chains." This was said by:
 (a) Jean Jacques Rousseau
 (b) Voltaire
 (c) Montesquieu (d) Karl Marx
84. The *Wealth of Nations* was written by:
 (a) Karl Marx (b) Voltaire
 (c) Malthus (d) Adam Smith
85. The Planning Commission is:
 (a) a Constitutional body
 (b) a wing of the Ministry of Planning, Government of India
 (c) an advisory body
 (d) endowed with the responsibility of implementing the Five Year Plans
86. Which of the following are among the permanent members of the Security Council of the United Nations Organization?
 1. Germany 2. Russia
 3. Japan 4. China
- Choose the correct answer from the codes given below:
 Codes:
 (a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 and 3
 (c) 3 and 4 (d) 2 and 4
87. During the period of the Renaissance new styles of architecture first developed in:
 (a) Italy (b) France
 (c) England (d) Germany
88. Saint Simon, Charles Fourier and Robert Owen were:
 (a) Renaissance artists
 (b) Portuguese navigators

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- (c) early Socialists
(d) activists in the American War of Independence
89. Which one of the following pairs of States was the first to implement the Panchayati Raj system?
- (a) Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh
(b) Karnataka and Kerala
(c) Uttar Pradesh and Bihar
(d) Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra
90. India is a member of:
- (a) NAM and ASEAN (b) NAM and SAARC
(c) NAM and OPEC (d) OPEC and SAARC
91. In which one of the following African countries Ebola Virus epidemic claimed a large number of lives recently?

- (a) Somalia (b) Zaire
(c) Tanzania (d) Kenya

92. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer by using the codes given below the lists:

List I
(Political parties
ruling)

List II
(States)

- A. Bharatiya Janata Party 1. West Bengal
B. Janata Dal 2. Orissa
C. Communist Party of India (Marxist) 3. Karnataka
D. Indian National Congress 4. Rajasthan

Codes:

- (a) A B C D
4 3 1 2
(b) A B C D
4 2 3 1
(c) A B C D
1 3 2 4
(d) A B C D
3 4 1 2

93. The Kuki National Army (KNA) is an insurgent group in:

- (a) Assam (b) Manipur
(c) Tripura (d) Arunachal Pradesh

94. The Halifax summit was that of:

- (a) G-7 countries
(b) leaders of the NAM
(c) countries in favour of a common currency for Europe
(d) Palestinian and Israeli leaders

95. Which one of the following pairs is correctly matched?

- (a) Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev : The head of Nepal's first democratically elected government
(b) G.P. Koirala : The King of Nepal
(c) Madhav Kumar Nepal : A prominent environmentalist of Nepal
(d) Manmohan Adhikari : Leader of the Communist party of Nepal—United Marxist Leninist

96. The Dabhol power plant is in:

- (a) Orissa (b) Gujarat
(c) Maharashtra (d) Andhra Pradesh

97. Muhajirs of Pakistan are:

- (a) Muslim migrants from India
(b) numerically dominant in Sind
(c) frontier tribesmen from NWFP
(d) the same as the Ahmadis

98. Ninety per cent of the Malaria cases occur in:

- (a) South Asia (b) West Asia
(c) South America (d) Africa

99. Which of the following statement(s) about Mayawati is/are correct?

1. She is the first woman Chief Minister of U.P.
2. She is the Chief Minister of a Coalition Government in U.P.

Select the answer from the codes given below:

Codes:

- (a) 1 alone (b) 2 alone
(c) 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

100. "In a bloodless coup, Crown Prince Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, the Defence Minister and the Commander of the Armed Forces, seized power deposing his father." This happened in June, 1995 in:

- (a) Bahrain
(b) Kuwait
(c) United Arab Emirates
(d) Qatar

ANSWERS

- | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| 1. (c) | 2. (b) | 3. (a) | 4. (c) | 5. (a) |
| 6. (a) | 7. (d) | 8. (b) | 9. (c) | 10. (a) |
| 11. (c) | 12. (a) | 13. (b) | 14. (c) | 15. (b) |
| 16. (c) | 17. (a) | 18. (c) | 19. (d) | 20. (a) |
| 21. (b) | 22. (c) | 23. (c) | 24. (d) | 25. (c) |
| 26. (d) | 27. (a) | 28. (b) | 29. (b) | 30. (c) |
| 31. (a) | 32. (b) | 33. (b) | 34. (b) | 35. (b) |
| 36. (d) | 37. (b) | 38. (d) | 39. (c) | 40. (a) |
| 41. (d) | 42. (c) | 43. (b) | 44. (c) | 45. (c) |
| 46. (a) | 47. (a) | 48. (b) | 49. (c) | 50. (b) |
| 51. (d) | 52. (b) | 53. (b) | 54. (c) | 55. (c) |
| 56. (b) | 57. (b) | 58. (b) | 59. (a) | 60. (b) |
| 61. (d) | 62. (a) | 63. (a) | 64. (b) | 65. (a) |
| 66. (a) | 67. (b) | 68. (d) | 69. (d) | 70. (c) |
| 71. (d) | 72. (d) | 73. (a) | 74. (d) | 75. (b) |
| 76. (b) | 77. (b) | 78. (a) | 79. (d) | 80. (d) |
| 81. (c) | 82. (b) | 83. (a) | 84. (d) | 85. (c) |
| 86. (d) | 87. (a) | 88. (c) | 89. (a) | 90. (b) |
| 91. (b) | 92. (a) | 93. (b) | 94. (a) | 95. (d) |
| 96. (c) | 97. (a) | 98. (d) | 99. (b) | 100. (d) |

TEST OF REASONING—1

Find out the missing numbers:

1. 21; 23; ...; 35; 51
(a) 25 (b) 30 (c) 27 (d) 31
(e) None of these
2. 116; 115; 114; 112; 104; ...; 68
(a) 95 (b) 100 (c) 89 (d) 87
(e) None of these
3. 2; 3; 4; 9; 8; ...
(a) 27 (b) 17 (c) 15 (d) 25
(e) None of these
4. 3; 7; 10; 8; 15; 23; ...; 9; 19
(a) 8 (b) 21 (c) 11 (d) 10
(e) None of these
5. 2; 5; 11; ...; 47
(a) 32 (b) 23 (c) 38 (d) 27
(e) None of these
6. 9; 5; 14; 19; 33; ...
(a) 50 (b) 48 (c) 62 (d) 54
(e) None of these
7. 49; 16; 42; 24; ...; 32; 28
(a) 47 (b) 35 (c) 28 (d) 3
(e) None of these
8. 94; 49; 63; 36; ...; 32
(a) 42 (b) 38 (c) 23 (d) 48
(e) None of these

In questions 9 to 12 four out of the five pairs of numbers have the same relationship. Find out the one that is different.

9. (a) 6 : 26 (b) 11 : 46 (c) 9 : 40
(d) 16 : 66 (e) 12 : 50
10. (a) 9 : 80 (b) 1 : 0 (c) 6 : 35
(d) 12 : 143 (e) 10 : 91
11. (a) 1 : 4 (b) 10 : 24 (c) 8 : 18
(d) 22 : 46 (e) 50 : 102
12. (a) 5 : 9 (b) 7 : 11 (c) 13 : 17
(d) 29 : 31 (e) 17 : 19

Questions 13 to 18 are based on the series of numbers given below:

158473885731873547815733738437181817381

13. Which number has the maximum frequency?
(a) 8 (b) 7 (c) 3 (d) 1

(e) None of these

14. How many 7s are there that are followed by 3 but are not preceded by 5?
(a) 2 (b) 4 (c) 5 (d) 6
(e) None of these
15. Which two numbers have the same frequency?
(a) 4 & 5 (b) 7 & 8 (c) 1 & 7
(d) 7 & 3 (e) None of these
16. How many numbers have the same number on their right and left?
(a) 2 (b) 3 (c) 4 (d) 5
(e) None of these
17. Which number occurs the least number of times?
(a) 5 (b) 4 (c) 1 (d) 7
(e) None of these
18. The ratio between the frequency of 4 and 8 is:
(a) 1 : 3 (b) 2 : 3 (c) 2 : 5 (d) 1 : 4
(e) None of these

Questions 19 to 21 are based on the word

CIRCUMSTANCES

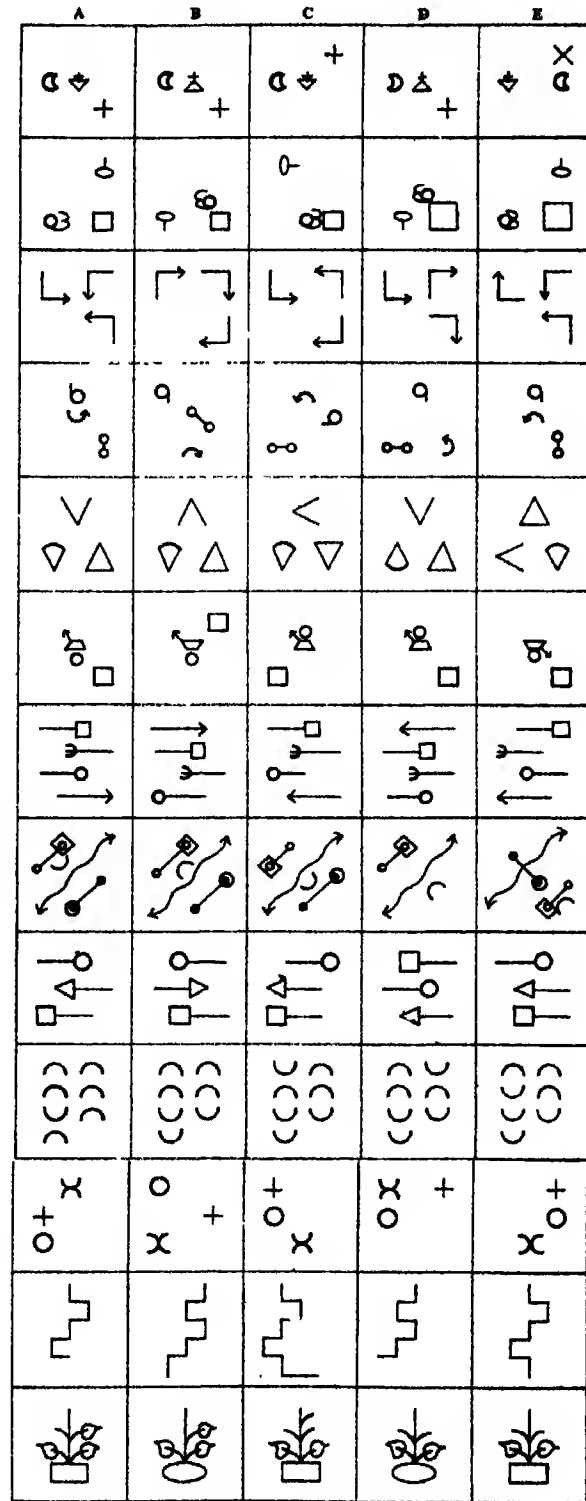
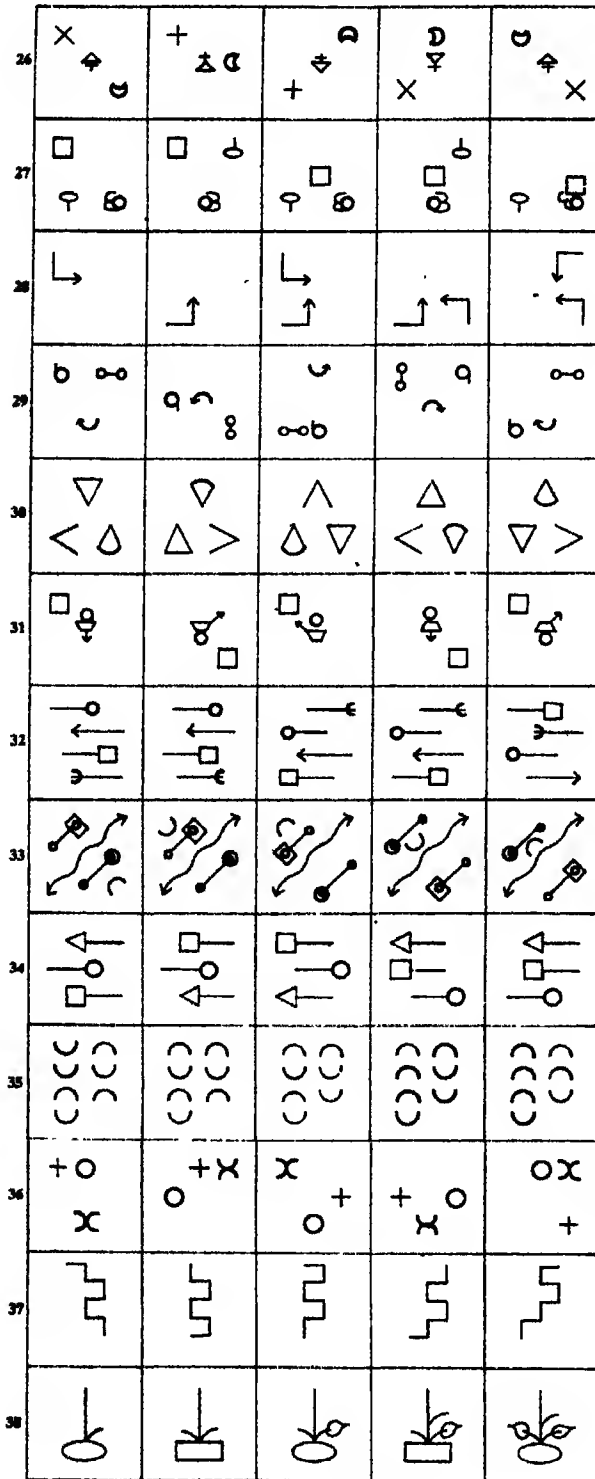
19. Which two letters in the word occur together in the alphabetical order as well?
20. How many letters form the word?
(a) 9 (b) 10 (c) 11 (d) 12
(e) 14
21. Which of the following has a different relationship with the lead word?
(a) CREST (b) STRAIN
(c) INSURE (d) SECURE
(e) CERTAIN

Find the odd-man out:

22. (a) LHJ (b) SOQ (c) ZVX
(d) FBD (e) RMP
23. (a) JHGK (b) MKJN (c) WUTY
(d) ZXWA (e) FDCG
24. (a) HS (b) JR (c) EV
(d) DW (e) LO
25. (a) JKMP (b) NOQU (c) BCEH
(d) UVXA (e) RSUX

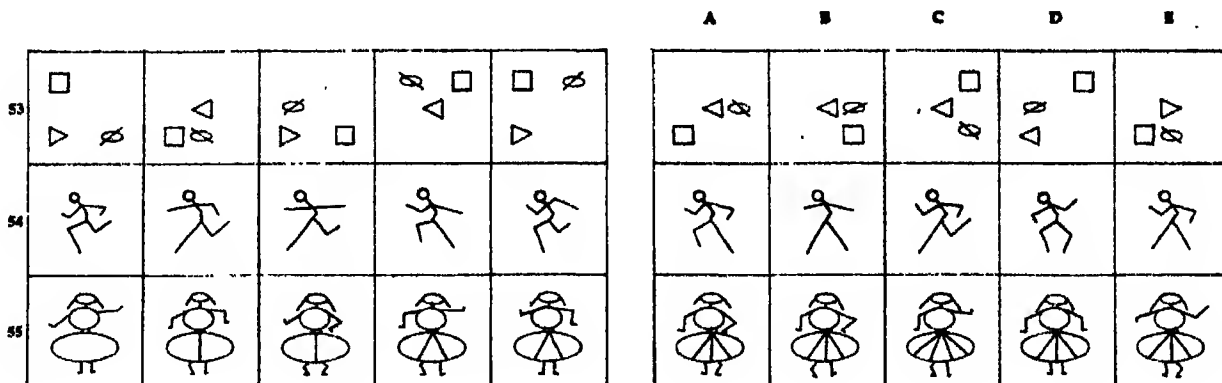
NON-VERBAL SERIES

Qs. 26 to 55. Given below are two sets of figures, the 'Problem Figures' and the 'Answer Figures' marked A, B, C, D and E. You have to find out which would be the next figure in the series of Problem Figures.

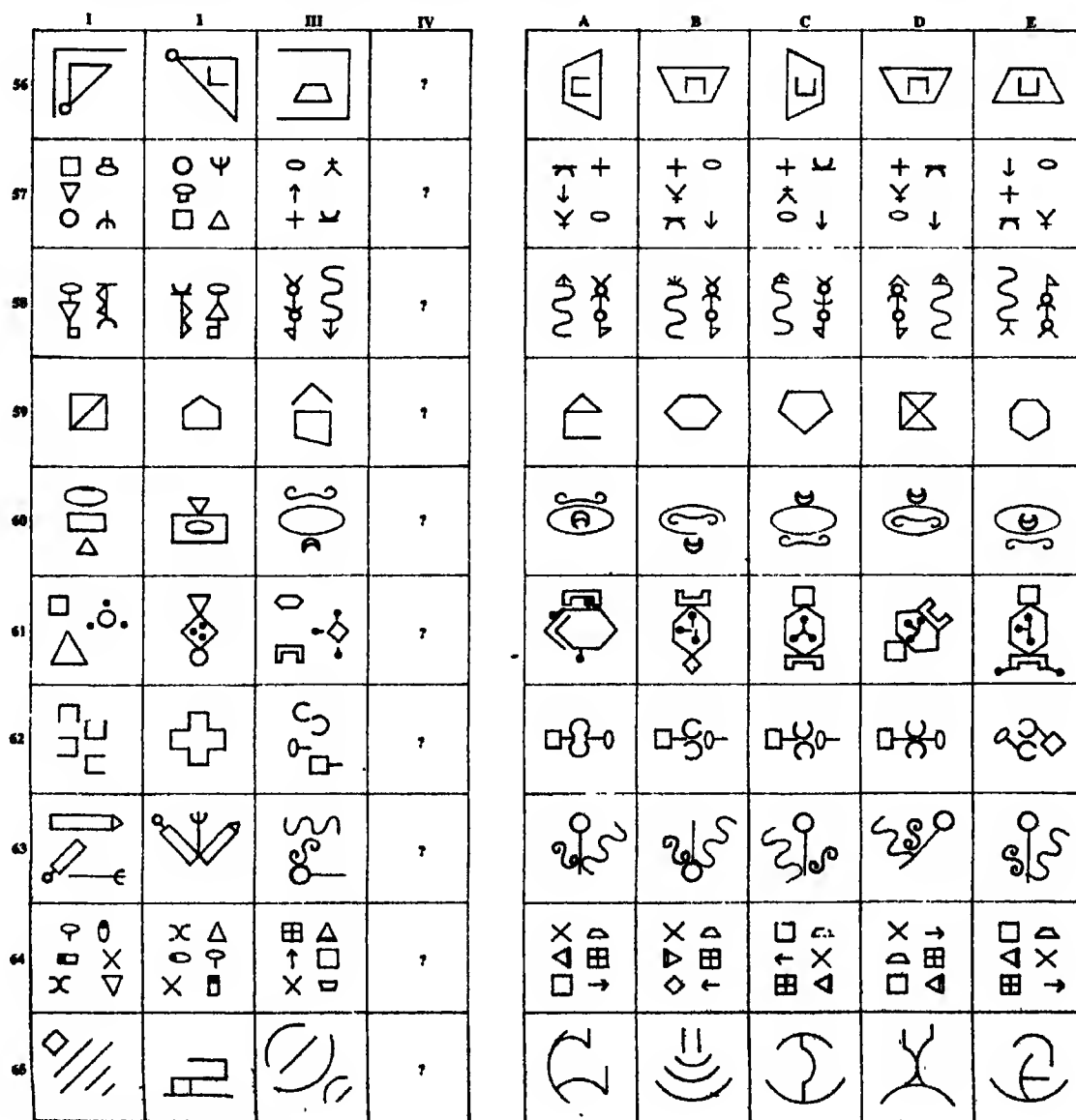


39					
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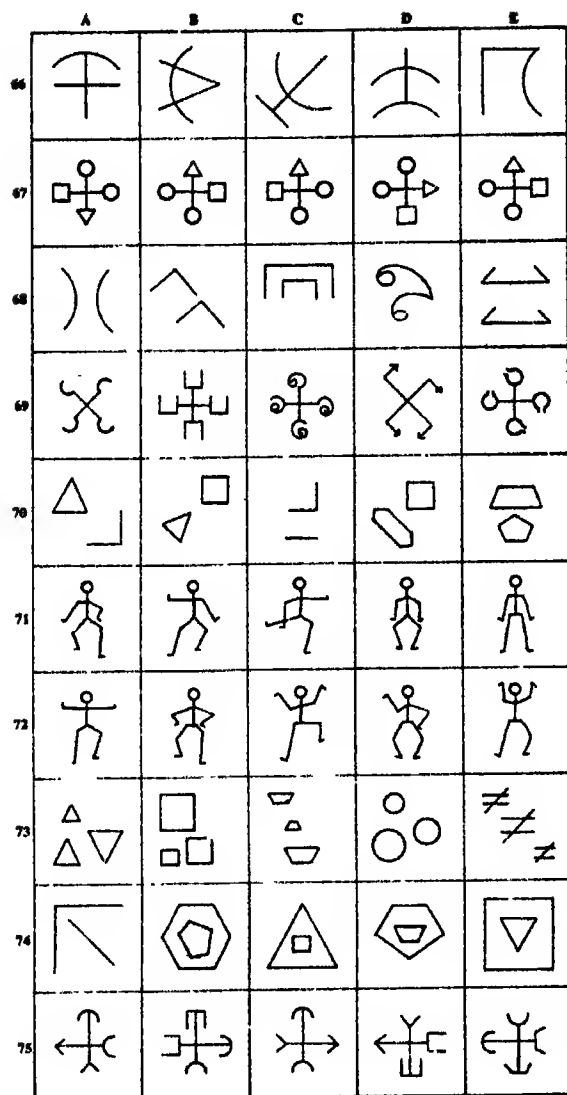
A	B	C	D	E



One of the figures from A, B, C, D and E has the same relationship with the III figure as the II figure has with the I one. Find out the figure for the box with question-mark.



Find the odd-man out:



ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

- (c) Go on adding 2, 4, 8, 16... to numbers respectively.
- (a) Deduct 1^2 ; 1^3 ; 2^2 ; 2^3 ; 3^2 ; 3^3 ... from numbers respectively.
- (a) There are two series: 2 ; 2^2 ; 2^3 and 3 ; 3^2 ; 3^3
- (d) Make sets of three, add first two numbers to get the third one.
- (b) Each number is double + 1 of the preceding number.
- (c) Each number is the total of its two preceding numbers, hence the missing number would be 52.
- (b) There are two series, 49, 42, 35...and 16, 24, 32...
- (c) Make sets of two and reverse the digits.
- (c) The arrangement is $x : 4x + 2$
- (c) The relationship is $x : x^2 - 1$.

- (b) The relationship is $x : (x + 1) \times 2$
- (a) In all the others, the second number is next prime number.
- (a) 14. (c) 15. (d) 16. (c)
- (b) 18. (a) 19. ST 20. (b)
- (d) It has an extra E which can't be borrowed from the word.
- (e) 23. (c) 24. (b) 25. (b)
- 26 to 55 : For answering questions 26 to 55, keep the following points in view:
 - Each figure in the question ought to be studied individually as well as in relationship with other figures.
 - If the figure has a movement, study the movement very carefully. The figure may rotate, bend, swing or turn upside down during movement, regularly or at intervals. It may change its size too.
 - The pace at which a figure moves is very important. The figure may shift its position clockwise, anti-clockwise, right/left, up/down, from one corner to the other or along certain points. The figure may maintain a uniform speed or may cover extra steps during movement.
 - Figures sometimes interchange places. Some of the figures may interchange places with some specific figures while the other figures in the same question may remain at their own place or may interchange places with the remaining figures.
 - Some figures may disappear during the movement of figures, may reappear after a gap or may be replaced by new figures.
- B 27. E 28. A 29. E
- B 31. D 32. C 33. A
- E 35. B 36. D 37. A
- E 39. B 40. B 41. C
- A 43. D 44. A 45. E
- C 47. E 48. B 49. A
- E 51. D 52. C 53. A
- A 55. B 56. B 57. D
- A 59. B 60. D 61. B
- B 63. E 64. A 65. E
- D. All the other figures have one curve and two straight lines.
- C. Square and triangle are placed on wrong poles.
- A. The two figures should be facing the same side.
- E. In all the other figures, two face opposite sides while two are in the same direction.
- D. In all the others, one of the figures has one side extra, in this one the difference is that of two sides.
- B. The posture of arms and opposite legs ought to be the same.
- D. In all the others both the arms are in the same position.
- D. In no other set of figures other than this one, any two figures are of the same size.
- C. In all the others, the inner figure has one side less.
- C. No two small identical figures face the same direction in any other question.

TEST OF REASONING—II

Find the odd-man out:

1. (a) panther (b) wolf (c) unicorn
(d) rhino (e) tiger
2. (a) yellow (b) brown (c) pink
(d) orange (e) green
3. (a) complicated (b) tricky (c) complex
(d) confusing (e) contrast
4. (a) book (b) pages (c) index
(d) chapters (e) title
5. (a) huge (b) tiny (c) heavy
(d) small (e) big
6. (a) spring (b) heat (c) winter
(d) autumn (e) summer
7. (a) curlew (b) swan (c) duck
(d) cuckoo (e) crane
8. (a) Ghalib (b) Shakeel
(c) Josh Malihabadi (d) Amzad Ali Khan
(e) Sahir Ludhianvi

Items in questions 9 to 16 have a definite relationship. Your task is to find out from (a), (b), (c) and (d) the pair of items with identical relationship.

9. pocket : coat
(a) magazine : story (b) house : city
(c) belt : trousers (d) cave : mountain
10. entertainment : enjoyment
(a) food : hunger (b) elections : canvassing
(c) reading : knowledge (d) music : songs
11. Tansen : Bhimsen Joshi
(a) P.T. Usha : Milkha Singh
(b) Tagore : Lata (c) Gavaskar : Cricket
(d) Rajneesh : Subhash Chandra Bose
12. barren : fertile
(a) sink : drown (b) planning : management
(c) sale : purchase (d) make-up : beauty
13. emotion : heart
(a) tears : eyes (b) walk : feet
(c) water : thirst (d) ornaments : gold
14. palace : king
(a) hotel : stay (b) shell : snail
(c) hut : beggary (d) classroom : student
15. pistol : gun
(a) knife : cut (b) Mars : Venus
(c) soap : soda (d) river : boat
16. dusk : night
(a) childhood : adolescence (b) light : dark
(c) blurred : vision (d) morning : evening

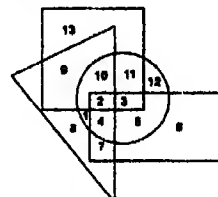
Match questions 17 to 21 with (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) on the basis of identical relationship among the three given items. The sequence may not be the same.

17. shawl : coat : sweater (a) travel : bus : train
18. wood : table : bat (b) injection : syrup : tablet
19. book : read : newspaper (c) gold : ornament : jewels
20. tree : smoke : environment (d) curds : cheese : milk

21. sugar : butter : cake

(e) health : antiseptics : infection

Questions 22 to 26 are based on the Van diagram given below:



The circle represents poor boys, the square educated boys, the triangle represents the boys who are employed somewhere and the rectangle represents those who help in family business. Each section of the diagram is numbered. Now answer the questions given below on the basis of the study of this diagram.

22. Which number represents those poor boys who help in family business but are not educated or employed elsewhere?

- (a) 2 (b) 3 (c) 4 (d) 5 (e) 7

23. Which number represents the group of educated poor boys who are employed somewhere but do not help in family business?

- (a) 10 (b) 3 (c) 11 (d) 2 (e) 9

24. Which section does number 3 represent?

- (a) Uneducated poor boys who do not help in family business.
(b) Educated poor boys employed in service.
(c) Uneducated boys who help in family business.
(d) Educated poor boys who help in family business.
(e) None of these

25. Which number represents that section of poor boys who are neither educated nor are in any employment or have any family business?

- (a) 4 (b) 5 (c) 1 (d) 11 (e) 12

26. Boys who are neither educated nor poor but have employment as well as a family business are represented by the number:

- (a) 8 (b) 7 (c) 4 (d) 6 (e) 5

Each question given below has a six-letter word. The letters of the word are given in their code forms as well. Find out the right code for letters given in box.

27. F R I D A Y
(a) g (b) w (c) t (d) m (e) p (f) c
28. S P R O U T
(a) h (b) j (c) g (d) v (e) b (f) k
29. D E N T A L
(a) w (b) b (c) p (d) z (e) q (f) x
30. C A R P E T
(a) w (b) g (c) b (d) z (e) v (f) f
31. L I S T E N
(a) z (b) m (c) x (d) b (e) k (f) q

32. S **U** N D A Y

(a) h (b) k (c) t (d) w (e) x (f) p

33. If PARTNER is coded as QZSSODS, the code for FRIEND would be:

(a) EQHDOC (b) GQJDMC (c) GQJDOC
(d) GQJDOE (e) None of these

Six friends, A, B, C, D, E and F have 92 kites in all.

A has 3 less than D but 1 more than C.

F has 3 more than B but 3 less than C.

E has 16 kites.

34. Who has the maximum number of kites and how many?

(d) D; 20 (b) F; 16 (c) F; 21
(d) D; 23 (e) None of these

35. Which two boys have the same number of kites?

(a) B & E (b) D & B (c) C & D
(d) C & E (e) None of these

36. What is the difference in the number of kites possessed by A and B?

(a) 9 (b) 7 (c) 5
(d) 6 (e) None of these

Five friends Kanta, Laxmi, Sunanda, Neena and Meenakshi went to five different places, Varanasi, Bombay, Patna, Hastinapur and Calcutta but not in the same order.

Kanta and Meenakshi did not go to Hastinapur.

Laxmi and Sunanda did not go to Patna or Bombay.

Neena did not go to Hastinapur or Calcutta.

Kanta and Neena did not go to Bombay.

Neena did not go to Patna and Sunanda did not go to Hastinapur.

37. Who went to Varanasi?

(a) Kanta (b) Laxmi (c) Sunanda
(d) Neena (e) Meenakshi

38. Who went to Patna?

(a) Kanta (b) Laxmi (c) Sunanda
(d) Neena (e) Meenakshi

39. Where did Meenakshi go?

(a) Varanasi (b) Bombay (c) Patna
(d) Calcutta (e) Hastinapur

40. Which of the following statement is correct?

(a) Sunanda went to Hastinapur
(b) Laxmi went to Calcutta
(c) Kanta did not go to Patna
(d) Meenakshi did not go to Varanasi
(e) All are correct

SYLLOGISMS

In each question below are given two statements followed by conclusions numbered I, II, III and IV. You have to take the two given statements to be true even if they seem to be at variance with commonly known facts. Read all the conclusions and then decide which of the given conclusions logically follow from the two given statements disregarding commonly known facts.

Statements:

41. 1. All boats are trains.
2. Some trains are aeroplanes.

Conclusions:

- I. Some boats are aeroplanes.

II. All trains are boats.

III. Some aeroplanes are not trains.

IV. No boat is aeroplane.

- (a) Only I and II follow. (b) Only III and IV follow.
(c) Only II and III follow. (d) Either I or IV follows.
(e) Either II or III follows.

Statements:

42. 1. All cups are plates.
2. All plates are breakable.

Conclusions:

- I. All cups are breakable.
II. Some cups are not breakable.
III. All breakable things are plates.
IV. Some plates are not cups.
(a) Only I follows. (b) Only II follows.
(c) Only II and IV follow. (d) Only III follows.
(e) None follows.

Statements:

43. 1. Some cars are tyres.
2. All tyres are pumps.

Conclusions:

- I. Some tyres are not cars.
II. Some pumps are cars.
III. Every pump is either car or tyre.
IV. All pumps are tyres.
(a) Only I follows. (b) Only II follows.
(c) Only III follows. (d) Only IV follows.
(e) None follows.

Statements:

44. 1. Every businessman is either doctor or nurse.
2. Every nurse is either teacher or lawyer.

Conclusions:

- I. Some businessmen are teachers.
II. Some businessmen are lawyers.
III. No nurse is a doctor.
IV. Every teacher is a businessman.
(a) Only I and II follow. (b) Only III follows.
(c) Only IV follows. (d) Only II follows.
(e) Only I, II and III follow.

Statements:

45. 1. Some cottages are slums.
2. Some slums are hotels.

Conclusions:

- I. Some slums are not cottages.
II. No cottage is a hotel.
III. Some hotels are cottages.
IV. Every slum is either cottage or hotel.
(a) Only I and II follow. (b) Only III follows.
(c) Either II or III follows. (d) Either I or III follows.
(e) None follows.

Statements:

46. 1. All shirts are hats.
2. All coats are hats.

Conclusions:

- I. Every hat is either shirt or coat.
II. Some shirts are coats.
III. Some hats are shirts as well as coats.
IV. No hat is shirt.
(a) Only I follows.
(b) Only II follows.
(c) Only III follows.
(d) All the three follow.
(e) None follows.

Statements:

47. 1. Some bats are bricks.
2. All bricks are red.

Conclusions:

- I. Some bats are red.
II. All red articles are bricks.
III. Some bats are not red.
IV. Only those bats are bricks which are not red.
(a) Only I and II follow.
(b) Only IV and III follow.
(c) Only I and III follow.
(d) Either II or III follows.
(e) Only II follows.

Statements:

48. 1. Only those women are social workers who are not married.
2. All married women are rich.

Conclusions:

- I. Social workers are not necessarily rich.
II. No married woman is poor.
III. No married woman is social worker.
IV. Some women are social workers.
(a) Only I and II follow.
(b) Only III and IV follow.
(c) Only II and III follow.
(d) All the four follow.
(e) None follows.

In each question below is given a statement followed by three assumptions numbered I, II and III. An assumption is something supposed or taken to be granted. You have to consider the statement and the assumptions and decide which of the assumption is implicit in the statement. Then decide which of the answers is correct.

Statement:

49. Photography is prohibited in sensitive areas.

Assumptions:

- I. If people try to survey such areas, they have to leave their cameras with the security people.
II. If a person is found there with a camera, he is interrogated and prosecuted.
III. The people living in the sensitive area are not allowed to have a camera.
(a) Only I follows.
(b) Only II and III follow.
(c) Only I and II follow.
(d) Either II or III follow.
(e) None follows.

Statement:

50. According to a recent research, laughter revs up immune strength and is therapeutic.

Assumptions:

- I. Doctors would soon be prescribing comic films to their patients.
II. Those who have a serious disposition are constantly sick.
III. Light-hearted persons have no ailments.
(a) Only I is implicit.
(b) Only II is implicit.
(c) Only III is implicit.
(d) Both II and III are implicit.
(e) None is implicit.

Statement:

51. Industrialists start receiving requests for funds from political parties as soon as the dates for elections are announced.

Assumptions:

- I. Political parties have no money of their own.
II. The industrialists donate money to parties so as to gain favour from them later.
III. Industrialists give money to these parties openly.
(a) Only I is implicit.
(b) Only II and III are implicit.
(c) Only III is implicit.
(d) Only II is implicit.
(e) None is implicit.

Statement:

52. The visit of a postman is always a pleasure for all.

Assumptions:

- I. Postmen are rather jovial persons.
II. The visit of the local postman means news of our dear ones who are far from us.
III. Postmen always bring good news.
(a) Only I is implicit.
(b) Only II is implicit.
(c) Only III is implicit.
(d) All are implicit.
(e) None is implicit.

Statement:

53. Romantic films are mostly box office hits.

Assumptions:

- I. Such films provide a relief to the cine-goer who is sick of sex and violence.
II. All of us have a romantic heart irrespective of age and surroundings.
III. Romantic films have a variety of stories.
(a) Only I and II are implicit
(b) Only II and III are implicit.
(c) Only I and III are implicit.
(d) Only III is implicit.
(e) All are implicit.

Statement:

54. All VIPs now-a-days have a strong security barrier around them while leaders like Nehru and Patel never needed any protection from security.

Assumptions:

- I. Leaders of those days were much more brave as compared to the modern political leaders.
II. There was no provision of security fund for VIPs in those days.
III. Assault on political leaders was not such a common feature in those days as it is now.
(a) Only I is implicit. (b) Only II is implicit.
(c) Only III is implicit. (d) Either II or III is implicit.
(e) All are implicit.

Statement:

55. Race-course does not fall in the category of gambling, hence the goers are not prosecuted.

Assumptions:

- I. As the performance depends upon the skill of horses and jockeys, it has been categorized with the games of skill.
II. Money does not change hands on race-course grounds.

- III. Gambling is discouraged by law.
 (a) Only I is implicit.
 (b) Only II is implicit.
 (c) Only I and III are implicit.
 (d) Only II and III are implicit.
 (e) Either I or II are implicit.

Statement:

56. Sri Lankan government forces took many days in conquering Jaffna and flushing out Tamil rebels.

Assumptions:

- I. The Tamil forces were very strong and well-equipped hence did not give in easily.
 - II. The government forces believed in well-planned slow and steady advancement.
 - III. The Tamil rebels will not try to form their army and take vengeance.
- (a) Only I and II are implicit.
 (b) Only III is implicit.
 (c) Either I or III are implicit.
 (d) None is implicit.
 (e) All are implicit.

In each question below is given a statement followed by three courses of action numbered I, II and III. A course of action is a step or administrative decision to be taken for improvement, follow-up or further promotion of an action in regard to the problem, policy etc. on the basis of the information given in the statement. You have to assume everything in the statement to be true, then decide which of the three suggested courses of action logically follow for pursuing.

Statement:

57. The wall of a newly constructed godown collapsed killing three persons

Courses of action:

- I. The contractor of the building should be held responsible for the accident and punished.
 - II. An appropriate amount of money should be sanctioned for the survivors of the deceased.
 - III. The whole construction of the godown should be brought down to avoid further accidents.
- (a) Only I follows. (b) Only I and II follow.
 (c) Only II follows. (d) Either I or II follows.
 (e) None follows.

Statement:

58. A complaint against manufacturers of soft-drinks has been launched in the Weights and Measurements department that their instructions are not properly observed by the manufacturers of soft-drinks.

Courses of action:

- I. All the soft-drink factories should be closed.
 - II. Distribution and delivery of soft drinks should be suspended till an agreement is reached.
 - III. New licenses for manufacturing soft drinks should not be issued.
- (a) Only I follows. (b) Only II follows.
 (c) Only III follows. (d) Either II or III follows.
 (e) None follows.

Statement:

59. One of the metropolitans is facing alarming power supply situation.

Courses of action:

- I. The authorities should make an appeal to the citizens to conserve energy.
- II. There should be a restriction on power supply.

III. Decorative lights should be totally banned.

- (a) Only I follows. (b) Only I and II follow.
 (c) Either II or III follows. (d) None follows.
 (e) All the three follow.

Statement:

60. Many countries are working to fight diseases like Cancer and AIDS in their own way.

Courses of action:

- I. The government of these countries should organize medical conferences where doctors can exchange their notes.
 - II. There should be an international medical centre where all achievements of the world could be recorded.
 - III. The governments of these countries should sanction special grant to promote this work.
- (a) Only I and II follow. (b) Either I or II follows.
 (c) Only II and III follow. (d) All the three follow.
 (e) None follows.

Statement:

61. The employees of a department filed a petition alleging irregularities in promoting certain persons to senior posts.

Courses of action:

- I. The incharge should order a probe into the matter.
 - II. The officer incharge should cancel the orders of promotion.
 - III. The employees who dared to file such a petition should be dismissed from services.
- (a) Only I follows. (b) Only II follows.
 (c) Only II and III follow. (d) Only I and III follow
 (e) All follow.

Statement:

62. Most of the inhabitants of a village suffer from dehydration from time to time.

Courses of action:

- I. The drinking water of that area should be properly cleaned.
 - II. The villagers should be regularly instructed to keep their surroundings clean.
 - III. Teams of social workers and medical deptt should try to teach the villagers hygienic habits.
- (a) Only I follows. (b) Only I and II follow.
 (c) Only I and III follow. (d) Only II and III follow.
 (e) All the three follow.

Statement:

63. During college elections, candidates cover all the walls of the institution with their names as a part of canvassing.

Courses of action:

- I. The head of the institution should call a meeting of the candidates and convince them that such an act makes the institution look dirty and drab.
 - II. The names of all such candidates should be dropped who disfigure walls.
 - III. A special fund should be kept aside to clean the walls of the institution after elections.
- (a) Only I follows. (b) Only II follows.
 (c) Only I and III follow. (d) Only II and III follow.
 (e) None follows.

Statement:

64. Children these days are more engrossed by TV programmes for adults rather than in playing outdoor games.

Courses of action:

- I. Parents should not switch on their TV sets when it is play time for children.
 - II. Parents should themselves go out with their children to some park.
 - III. Children who insist on watching such programmes should be severely punished.
- (a) Only I follows. (b) Either I or II follows.
(c) Only II and III follow. (d) Either II or III follows.
(e) None follows.

Below is given a passage followed by several possible inferences which can be drawn from the facts stated in the passage. You have to examine each inference separately in context of the passage and decide upon degree of truth or falsity in it. Mark your answers:

- (a) if the inference is definitely true.
(b) if probably true.
(c) if data is inadequate.
(d) if probably false.
(e) if definitely false.

Although the Constitution had been in effect for the past four and a half decades, no effort has been made to understand it in the perceptive it was framed by the framers of the Constitution. Practically each and every Article stands misunderstood, misinterpreted and diluted. It is high time that we knew the law of our land. The immediate provocation for this write up is the recent Supreme Court verdict upholding the constitutional validity of civilian awards. If the conferment of awards were a source of corruption to those who bestow them as well as to those who accept them for which reason titles were abolished by the framers of the Constitution, it was better that the government stopped the award of Bharat Ratna and Padma species.

65. Most of the citizens are unaware of the spirit behind the law.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

66. Bharat Ratna is the highest reward in our country.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

67. Only those laws are diluted that are misunderstood.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

68. Our Constitution does not believe in conferring titles on citizens.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

69. The Supreme Court is not much in favour of awards.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

70. Corruption has entered the decisions regarding awards.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (c) This animal exists in mythology only.
2. (a) It is the only original colour among the mixed ones.
3. (e) All the others refer to rather same type of situations.
4. (a) Book is the article that contains all the others.
5. (c) All the others refer to size while this one is related to weight.
6. (b) All the others are seasons.
7. (d) All the others are water-birds.
8. (d) He is the only musician (sitarist) among poets.
9. (d) They are the same type of gaps.
10. (c) One naturally leads to another.

11. (a) Both belong to the same category, musicians/racers.
12. (c) The words are antonyms.
13. (a) Just as emotions rise in heart, tears rise in eyes.
14. (b) One is an abode of the other.
15. (b) Both belong to the same category.
16. (a) One follows the other.
17. (b) The three items provide protection/treatment from a common thing (winter/disease).
18. (d) There are two items that are made from the third one.
19. (a) Two of the items are mediums for the third activity.
20. (e) One affects the other adversely and the third provides protection.
21. (c) Two of the items are needed to make the third one.
22. (d) 23. (a) 24. (d) 25. (e) 26. (b)
27. to 32. For answering these questions find out common letters in words and match them with common codes, e.g., R occurs in questions 27 and 28 so does 'g' in codes hence it is the code for R.
27. (e) 28. (d) 29. (a) 30. (c)
31. (f) 32. (a)
33. (c) The 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th....letters are coded by their next letter in the alphabetical order while the remaining have their preceding letter as code.
34. (a) 35. (d) 36. (b) 37. (d)
38. (a) 39. (b) 40. (d)

The best way to answer the next set of questions is by drawing diagrams of all the probable conditions and then reaching a fool-proof conclusion. Let each item be represented by a circle, irrespective of its size, draw the diagram according to the relationship among the items. A few examples are given below

41. (d)
42. (a)
43. (b)
44. (e)
45. (c)
46. (e)
47. (c)
48. (d)
49. (c) 50. (e) 51. (d) 52. (b) 53. (a)
54. (c) 55. (c) 56. (a) 57. (b) 58. (b)
59. (e) 60. (d) 61. (a) 62. (e) 63. (a)
64. (b) 65. (b) 66. (c) 67. (d) 68. (a)
69. (b) 70. (a)

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SCANDALS

Jain Hawala Case Explodes

THE country's largest case of political corruption was triggered in 1990. The arrest of two Kashmiri militants revealed that money was paid to them through a hawala network. The trail led to S K Jain and his brothers. A CBI raid on their farmhouse in Delhi in 1991 unearthed a set of diaries which recorded the Jains' hawala transactions. They mention 115 people, including 40 politicians and 18 bureaucrats as recipients of huge amounts, a total of Rs 65 crore.

Acting on a public interest litigation in the Supreme Court, charging the CBI of deliberately delaying the investigations, the Court directed the CBI to move faster and started putting pressure. In March 1994, 18 bureaucrats were chargesheeted. Further prodding from the Court resulted in the CBI taking action against politicians. On January 16, 1996 it chargesheeted Anif Mohammad Khan, Arjun Singh, Balram Jakhar, Devi Lal, Kalpnath Rai, I K Advani, Madhav Rao Scindia, V C Shukla and Yashwant Sinha, who have been accused of having received a sum ranging from Rs 10.5 lakhs to Rs 749.6 lakhs. Doubts were expressed that the chargesheets are politically motivated.

PM accused BJP leader Atal Behari Vajpayee launched a campaign for action against the Prime Minister while alleging that he too had taken a sum of Rs 3.55 crore. The St Kitts case was also raised by the Opposition demanding the prosecution of Mr Rao for his alleged involvement in the forgery case. It wanted the CBI to reopen the case.

The Fallout Beginning with the resignation of BJP President L K Advani from the Lok Sabha, the three Cabinet Ministers and other leaders tendered their resignations while pleading their innocence. So far the CBI has chargesheeted only 28 of the 115 people identified in the diaries. Investigations against the others are still under way.

Recent Economic News

Sensex on Roller Coaster

Liberalisation gave an impetus to dull stock market in India and the Bombay Stock Exchange created a sort of history when its Sensitive Index (BSE Sensex) zoomed by 575 points to 3017 in just three sessions on budget-day in 1992. It attained a record height of 4643 points on September 16, 1994, having a roller-coaster ride, experiencing depressed sentiments as well as rallying sessions in between the said period. Dancing with the bears Sensex came down to 3950 in January 1995 and further slipped down to around 3110 in December 1995 and the year was marked by a decline of 840 points. On January 24, 1996 Sensex crashed and hit its lowest mark in 26 months, touching 2823, a fall of about 1800 points from the peak. The fall has been termed as 'mother of all bear phases'.

Theoretical association of Sensex with satisfactory corporate performance notwithstanding, swings in the Sensex have more often been found to be dancing with the whims and wishes of bulls and bears.

Of course, recently the change in the trend has given a sigh of relief to many, but it appears to be temporary phase since the factors which were prevalent last year are still there.

In fact, a multiplicity of the factors, ranging from mob psychology to 'year end selling of Foreign Institutional Investors', cast their shadow on the market. Nevertheless, liquidity crises in the economy has been a major factor behind the fall. Since money market attracts funds with hike in the interest rate, the announcement on hike in interest rate by the RBI also carried a discouraging impact on the investors. In this regard, role of Institutional investors can not be ignored as they become 'net seller' in the market when their sales exceed purchases. As regards the Mutual Fund Units, their quoting below the net asset value and lower profitability virtually gave a setback to mutual fund culture. And what added to the fuel was the RBI's tight money supply policy.

The depressed sentiments in the market were further aggravated by such controversies as generated by M S Shoes, Reliance, besides the political turmoil, marked by split in Congress, electoral loss of Congress, Enron controversy and, of course, revelations of hawala rackets.

While the revival of forward trading is yet to influence the market, there is move for the enactment of Depository Bill, to boost the share market.

Nonetheless, the bullish attitude of foreign institutional investors will, to some extent, counter the bearish trend in market but the real rally is likely only after polls and investors have got to exhibit patience. Point to be noted is that whichever party gets the rein of government, it will be difficult for it to ignore the capital market.

MAHARASHTRA

Enron Project Cleared

THE Maharashtra government cleared the revised Enron project on January 8, 1996 thus ending a long drawn out controversy. The cost of the 2450 MW project has been reduced from Rs 9,060 crore to Rs 6,424 crore. The tariff has been reduced from Rs 2.40 to Rs 1.86 per unit, which

will result in savings of Rs 25,000 crore, according to calculations of the government.

Chief Minister Manohar Joshi absolved the Sharad Pawar government of receiving kickbacks and ruled out a probe. The State government however, asked Enron chief executive Rebecca Mark to list the recipients of the Rs 60 crore that the company has paid allegedly to "educate Indians".

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The State government's decision came under fire from the Swadeshi Jagran Manch which said that principles had been sacrificed for political expediency.

Srikrishna Commission goes

ON January 23, 1996 the Maharashtra Government announced its decision to dissolve the Srikrishna Commission which was set up to probe into the riots which engulfed Bombay in December 1992 and January 1993. The Commission was set up under the Chairmanship of Justice B.N. Srikrishna, in 1993, for a period of six months but repeatedly got extensions. Maharashtra Government's decision has been based on the perception that the continuation of the Commission may lead to some sort of tension and assertion on its taxing the exchequer. However, the National Minorities Commission and various political parties have strongly condemned the decision of the Maharashtra Government and urged for its reversal.

1984 RIOTS

H.K.L. Bhagat held

SENIOR Congress leader H.K.L. Bhagat was arrested on January 24, 1996 and his bail application rejected by the Additional Sessions Judge. The 75-year old former Union Minister then developed sudden chest pain and was taken to hospital for a medical examination. Bhagat was charged with murder, rioting and looting in November 1984 in the wake of the assassination of Mrs Indira Gandhi. The basis of the warrant was the testimony of Satnami Bai, who charged that Bhagat had led a violent mob in East Delhi which lynched her husband to death 11 years ago. Bhagat denied the allegations.

LAW

Arbitration Ordinance Issued

THE President issued an ordinance, which became operative on January 25,

1996, that amends the law relating to domestic and international arbitration and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards. The government had brought in a bill to amend the arbitration law in June, 1995, which was referred to a Parliamentary Committee. It was slated for discussion in the winter session of Parliament, but could not be taken up because of the impasse in Parliament.

The ordinance brings a dispensation where arbitration in India will be based on UNCTRAL (United Nations Centre for International Trade Law) model. This unifies various business laws of the world. The major advantage of the new law is that it will speed up arbitration procedure by minimising intervention of the court.

CHAKMA REFUGEES

Supreme Court's direction

FOLLOWING a Public Interest Petition filed by the National Human Rights Commission, the Supreme Court on January 10, 1996 directed the Arunachal Pradesh Government to ensure that 'the life and personal liberty of Chakmas in the State is protected' and also to repel any attempt by any 'organised group' to

forcibly evict them out of the State.

The Chakmas, who were displaced about three decades ago by the Kaptai Hydel Power Project, in Bangladesh, got settled in Assam and Tripura. Subsequently to share the 'pressure of refugees', some settled in Arunachal Pradesh. Over the years, Chakmas and Hajong tribals adapted themselves in the Indian environment and those who entered India prior to March 25, 1971 got a relief with the signing of Indira-Mujib Pact of 1972 which ensured them settlement in India. But implications of the anti-refugees agitation, which was launched in 1979 by the All Assam Students Union, also had their severe repercussions and the Chakmas and Hajong were issued 'Quit notices'.

The recent verdict of the Supreme Court may be seen as a new ray of hope for the Chakmas whose population in Arunachal is now estimated to be over 60,000. On January 28, 1996, the All India Chakma National Movement announced its decision to intensify their stir to press for the acceptance of its demands, which includes an end to human rights abuses on Chakmas. The other demands include upholding of fundamental rights of the Chakmas in India and providing justice

Recent Economic News

Rupee crashes to all-time low

The Indian rupee continued its downslide against the dollar. It crashed to Rs 38.30 on February 5, 1996 despite intervention by the RBI. There was near panic at the forex markets. The RBI attributed weakening of the rupee to the appreciation of the dollar against currencies across the world. The rupee's downfall was also due to heavy demand of US currency and lack of buying amid panic buying. The slide of the rupee has been faster than expectations.

The fall of the rupee is expected to reduce the inflow of foreign funds and will affect Indian trade. Imports will become costlier, giving fears of a rise in inflation. The import bill for essentials such as oil and fertilisers, which account for 40 per cent of India's imports, is expected to sky-rocket and domestic products with high import content will also become more expensive. Exports will become cheaper and thus more competitive in foreign markets. But beyond a point, this effect does not work.

Overseas travel will become more expensive for Indians. To check erosion of wealth held in rupees, people will shift to gold, jewellery and land. Flight of capital through hawala transactions is possible.

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to them for their just demands.

HORSE RACING

SC says it is not gambling

ON January 12, 1996, the Supreme Court held that horse racing was a game of skill within the meaning of Section 49 of the Madras City Police Act and Section 49 of the Gambling Act. It was not gambling as such. The landmark verdict is likely to give a boost to the multi-million rupee sport.

JAMMU & KASHMIR

SC warning to EC, Govt

ON January 11, 1996, the Supreme Court directed the Union Government and the Election Commission to sort out the issue of timing of the Kashmir elections by mutual consultations. The Court thus revived the hope for an early elections in J&K. It gave two weeks to sort out the matter and if it was not resolved, the Court would decide who was the authority to decide the timing of the poll.

Seshan style condemned: On January 10, 1996 the Supreme Court took exception to Chief Election Commissioner T.N. Seshan's public comments projecting the Commission as the ultimate authority to decide the timing of general elections—an issue being examined by the Court. It said that such comments constituted "height of responsibility" of a constitutional functionary. The judges were referring to Seshan's reported comments at Madras. Justice J.S. Verma observed that Seshan was utilising his office to boost his personal image and this was an unfortunate trend.

Major Parties Oppose Poll: Hopes of an early elections in J&K receded when major political parties except the Congress, opposed any move to hold elections in J&K, saying that the situation in the State was not conducive for a free and fair poll. These views emerged after the Home Minister S.B. Chavan held separate meetings with representatives of the State units of

Draft Economic Survey (1995-96) Report

The draft Economic Survey for 1995-96 has admitted that the fiscal deficit will once again go out of control and will cross the 6 per cent level. It also paints a grim outlook for the infrastructure sector. The report is compiled by the Finance Ministry, the Planning Commission and the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO).

The report projects an industrial growth of 10 per cent, a GDP growth rate of 5.5 per cent, inflation growth rate of 8 per cent, export growth rate of 20 per cent and a comfortable foreign exchange reserve.

It has recommended a push to foreign direct investment in the infrastructure sector including coal, power, ports, petroleum and telecommunications. To achieve this, it suggests that the ministries should amend existing laws that are out of tune with the new economic policy. There is a need for regulatory agencies to monitor private sector investments in these sectors and serve as mediator in disputes between producer and user segments of these industries. The survey says that such bodies should be set up in the changed context of economic liberalisation.

It goes on to say that basic parameters show that the economy is on the take-off stage. It identifies three major areas which may create problems:

■ **Fiscal Deficit:** The deficit cannot be pegged at the targeted level of 5.5 per cent. Latest estimates suggest that it may be above 6 per cent.

■ **Liquidity Crunch:** Tight liquidity conditions in the market will affect investments. But it says that this could be overcome if private sector investments flow into the core sector. There is a need for foreign direct investment in these sectors and open bidding should be followed, particularly in the coal and oil sectors.

■ **Infrastructure bottlenecks:** Poor performance of infrastructure is another weak area. The report warns that foreign investment in the power sector will not materialise if coal continues to be reserved for the public sector. Potential investors will rely on imported coal or diesel rather than depend on the State-owned Coal India Ltd. This will result in increase in imports while reserves of the country will be underexploited.

the parties on February 2, 1996. While the Congress representatives felt that people were fed up with terrorism and wanted the government to hold the Assembly elections before the Lok Sabha polls, the National Conference felt that there was no possibility of holding of polls because the safety of the common people would be in peril. It demanded restoration of autonomy of the State. The State BJP leaders also expressed reservations about holding elections in the State.

TELECOM

TRAI Constituted

A three-member Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) was constituted by the Telecommunications min-

istry on January 29, 1996 and approved by the President. With its setting up, the major complaint of the Opposition and the telecom companies has been met. It had been criticised that the government had floated tenders for the cellular and basic services without first constituting the TRAI. The new body will be an autonomous body and will ensure that the telecom policy is not transgressed.

DEFENCE

Pressures on Prithvi Test

FOLLOWING the test firing of *Prithvi*, the US started putting pressure on India. It described India's *Prithvi* missile test a "mistake" and held consultations with officials. State department official Nicho-

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las Burns said on February 1, 1996 that no country in the region should acquire, test or deploy ballistic missiles. According to the US, the test has created instability in the area and neither India nor Pakistan should develop this technology.

Pakistan's President Farooq Leghari said that his country might be forced into an arms race as a result of the test. The *Prithvi* missile had created a new threat perception and he vowed to do all he could for Pakistan's security. He said that Pakistan had yet to choose how it would counter India's move.

At a multiparty defence consultative committee chaired by the Prime Minister on February 1, 1996, it was made clear that India will go ahead with plans to deploy the *Prithvi* surface-to-surface missile as a counter measure to Pakistan's weapons acquisition programme. The counter measures also include keeping the nuclear option open as also the option to resume testing the currently capped *Agni* intermediate range ballistic missile.

ANDHRA PRADESH

NTR's void

WITH the death of N.T. Rama Rao on January 16, 1995, the National Front is faced with a void which will be difficult to fill, as till the time NTR held the post of the Chairman of the National Front there were no serious contenders. Now it is open for strifes amongst factions. But the immediate series of events in the Andhra Pradesh which were marred by family squabble suggest that the loss of NTR would have severe repercussion on the future of the TDP.

An attempt was made by N. Chandrababu Naidu towards unification but the Parvathi group rejected Naidu's offer and subsequently on January 21, 1996 Lakshmi Parvathi was unanimously elected the new President of Telugu Desam Party (NTR faction) and the faction called for ousting Naidu.

INDIA-FRANCE

Protocol signed

INDIA and France signed a financial protocol on January 31, 1996 committing French funding for specified projects upto a sum of 376 million francs (about Rs 263 crore). The agreement was signed by the French ambassador in India, Philippe Petit and V. Govindrajan, joint secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs. A sum of Rs 3.3 crore is for feasibility studies for power, food processing and electronics sector projects and another Rs 59.5 crore will be used to fund projects in the mining and irrigation sectors.

INDIA-CANADA

Pacts to boost economic ties signed

INDIA and Canada signed 47 business deals worth \$2.94 billion during the visit of Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien to India. The two countries also expressed their determination to work with the international community to combat terrorism in all its forms. At the conclusion of his six-day visit on January 14, 1996, a joint statement was issued exhorting all States to deny support to terrorists and support strength-

ening of global disarmament and non-proliferation agenda.

However, the visiting PM also held the threat of "toughening import restrictions" against goods produced by child labour. He said that Canadian companies were going to specifically prohibit child labour from being used in any goods they import. This caused some consternation among officials and businessmen.

Differences also persisted over India's stand over the NPT. Canada asked India to sign the controversial treaty. India insisted that the treaty be linked to the goal of universal disarmament.

INDIA-NEPAL

Treaty on Mahakali river

INDIA and Nepal signed a treaty on January 30, 1996 for the integrated development of the Mahakali river basin. The treaty was signed by external affairs minister Pranab Mukherjee and his Nepalese counterpart, Prakash Chandra Lohani. It recognises Nepal's equal rights for water sharing and other benefits accruing from future projects on the river. A long standing grievance has thus been resolved.

The treaty provisions include increased benefits to Nepal from the Sharda

India epicentre of child sex tourism

With 4 lakh child prostitutes, most of them under 15 years of age, India has come into focus as an emerging epicentre of child sex tourism, according to the International Labour Organisation (ILO). The findings of a study conducted by the Centre of Concern for Child Labour, a non-government organisation, termed *Defending the Future: 1995 report*, warned that attention has now shifted to India from Thailand, with 6 lakh prostitutes, and Philippines, with 60,000, also are tightening laws in the wake of international pressure. Goa, Madras and Orissa top the list, especially after Sri Lanka became unsafe because of militancy. Goa, it is claimed, is set to rival Bangkok in the business.

Ron O'Grady, founder of the End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism campaign, confirmed that India is a replacement for other South Asian countries because of fewer laws against child sex abuse.

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barrage and the Tanakpur Hydel Project. Through concessions allowed by India on the treaty, India was able to achieve a breakthrough on the multi-purpose Pancheshwar project, which is to come up soon. Estimated to cost Rs 20,000 crore, the project has an initial power generation capacity of 2,000 MW which would later be raised to 4,000 MW.

Second transit route: India also agreed on January 27, 1996 to open a second transit route at Phulwari on the Indo-Bangladesh border for giving easy access to export of Nepalese goods and announced a package for phasing out non-tariff barriers and encouraging more direct investment in the Himalayan kingdom.

INDIA-ISRAEL

Agreements to boost economic ties

INDIA and Israel signed three agreements on January 29, 1996 on promotion and protection of bilateral investment, customs cooperation and avoidance of double taxation to boost economic and trade relations between the two countries. The agreements were signed by Finance Minister Manmohan Singh and his Israeli counterpart, Avraham B. Shochat in Delhi.

The Israeli government has offered a \$100 million line of credit to the Exim Bank of India for financing exports of capital goods from Israel to India. The Exim Bank would extend \$25 million line of credit on reciprocal basis. The two governments also agreed to assist development of joint ventures particularly in high-tech industries, telecommunications, aviation, agriculture and agro-technology, healthcare and medical equipment and textiles. In May, 1993 a MoU was signed between the two countries which granted Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status to each other.

INDIA-BRAZIL

Declaration to fight terrorism

BRAZILIAN President Fernando Henrique Cardoso, on his visit to India on January 27, 1996, said that his country would use India as the gateway to Asia-Pacific to penetrate the growing Asian markets. He said that the two countries share a common development perception and a desire to enhance bilateral economic relationship. During his visit, both countries agreed to counter the forces of aggressive nationalism, extremism and terrorism that threatened the security and stability of democratic societies. In a joint declaration, the countries reiterated the need for peaceful settlement of all disputes.

President Cardoso was the Chief Guest at the 1996 Republic Day parade.

INDIA-SINGAPORE

Ties to promote stability

SENIOR minister and former Prime Minister of Singapore, on his three-day visit to India, said on January 4, 1996 that increased contacts between the two countries could contribute to strengthening of stability and development in the region and around the world. He said that though

India enjoyed the prospect of becoming a full dialogue partner of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), it could not be accepted as a member because such a move would be resented by China. India now has the status of only a sectoral dialogue partner of the ASEAN.

INDIA-BRITAIN

Technology Pact Signed

BRTAIN'S secretary for trade and industry Ian Lang and India's Minister for science and technology Bhuvnesh Chaturvedi signed a science and technology pact with India on January 3, 1996. The agreement extends the scope of Indo-British Partnership (IBP) launched in 1993 to increase trade and investment opportunities between the two countries.

IBP officials said that the agreement involves an exchange of information on technology and related issues, making India an easier destination for British investment. Mr Lang also announced the setting up of a research collaboration fund worth over Rs 1 crore (\$286,000) which will offer financial grants to help closer links between research teams in the United Kingdom and India.

Is Poverty Declining?

An analysis by the Planning Commission shows that the percentage of people below the poverty line stood at 18.96 per cent in 1993-94. In terms of numbers, the figure stands at 168.56 million. The provisional figures are based on the half sample carried out by the National Sample Survey for 1993 and may be subject to revision. The percentage of poor in rural areas stood at 21.68 per cent and 11.55 in urban areas. The number of rural poor stood at 141.05 million and urban poor at 27.05 million. The calculation of poverty line income level is Rs 228.9 per capita per month for rural areas and Rs 264.1 in urban areas.

However, Oxfam has for the first time since India's independence, found that the incidence of poverty has been increasing in the country. Studies by Oxfam show that the poverty level fell significantly from 57.33 per cent in 1971 to 35.55 per cent in 1990 in rural India. It declined from 45.89 to 32.43 per cent in urban India during the 20-year period. But by the end of 1991, rural poverty rose to 42.06 per cent and the following year it rose sharply to 46.6 per cent.

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NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT Talks to conclude CTBT

THE 38-member UN Conference on Disarmament (CD) began negotiations on January 23, 1996 to conclude the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). The CD seeks a complete global ban on nuclear testing. The move got patronage from the three of the five nuclear powers, United States, United Kingdom, France and to an extent from Russia. However, China argued for a provision for peaceful nuclear explosions.

India has thrown its weight behind calls for a treaty that would prohibit, prevent and bind States not to carry out any nuclear test which releases nuclear energy in any form or type. The West has, however, termed India's view as "unrealistic" and accused it of taking up a trouble-maker's role. Even before negotiations started India was singled out for criticism by USA, which fired the first shot by stating that New Delhi was preparing to conduct a nuclear test. India denied that it had any such plans.

Meanwhile, USA has said that it will continue to conduct high explosive experiments with nuclear materials. The new experiments—scheduled for April and September 1996—will not reach criticality, that is, there will be no nuclear explosion as sought to be banned by CTBT. Developing countries including India feel that such tests will make the CTBT redundant, allowing the major powers to constantly upgrade their arsenals.

US criticises NAM: The US criticised the call by non-aligned countries for fixing a link between the CTBT and a date by which the nuclear weapon States would eliminate their nuclear arsenals. Director of US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency John Holum said the NAM resolution was "perverse" and that the path urged by it was leading to stalemate and posturing.

France stops tests: The last blast by France, which was more than six times the blast of the atom bomb dropped on Hiroshima in 1945, was conducted on January 27, 1996. It yielded the computer data France says it must have to update its nuclear arsenal. As the world guessed, French President Jacques Chirac announced an end to France's bitterly disputed nuclear weapons tests in the South Pacific on January 30, 1996 after six underground explosions in the last five months. Chirac said France would take initiatives on disarmament and European defence. Western nations welcomed the announcement but New Zealand warned it will be years before France is trusted again in the region. Environmental groups heaved a sigh of relief and said France had finally given-in to intense international pressure.

Britain, France and the US are now expected to sign a treaty declaring South Pacific to be nuclear free. The treaty of Rarotonga, 1985, sets up the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone (SPNFZ).

China to continue tests: China, however, said that its programme of underground tests would continue unchanged until a global test-ban treaty takes place. France's decision to end the testing leaves China alone in its insistence to continue the tests. But China's attitude showed that it was unlikely to be swayed to stop its nuclear tests.

RUSSIA

Chechnya continues to be a trouble-spot

THE situation in Chechnya deteriorated on January 9, 1996 when its Moscow-backed Cabinet headed by Doku Zavgayev, resigned while taking responsibility for the Kizlyar hostage crisis. The Chechen rebel group called the Lone Wolves raided a helicopter base at the Daghestani town of Kizlyar and took ref-

uge in a local hospital, taking 3,400 patients, staff and local people hostage. Their demand was immediate withdrawal of Russian troops from Chechnya.

After a one day standoff, the rebels released most of their captives in exchange for a safe passage to Chechnya. They took 150 hostages with them, agreeing to release them later. But a dispute broke out over the hostages' release. On January 15, 1996, President Boris Yeltsin ordered the Russian army, police and security forces to attack the village of Pervomaiskoye, where about 300 rebels held the hostages. Yeltsin claimed that 82 people were released in the brutal and indiscriminate attack which levelled the village. Some of the rebels escaped, including their leader, Salman Raduyev.

UNITED NATIONS

Mandate in Sahara Extended

THE UN Security Council extended until May 31 the mandate of its mission in Western Sahara which is to organise a referendum on the future of the territory. The mandate is to determine whether the former Spanish colony should join Morocco or become independent as demanded by its main party, the Polisario Front. Both parties are now agreed to facilitate the process.

SAARC

Commerce Ministers Meet

ON January 8, 1996, the first SAARC Commerce Ministers conference was inaugurated in New Delhi. The Commerce Ministers reiterated their commitment to expedite the SAARC Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA) process towards its full implementation and also to strive for the realisation of South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) by the year 2000, but not later than 2005. SAPTA has become operational on December 7, 1995.

It was also agreed that the second

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round should consider removal of non-tariff and trade control barriers so that trade in items of export interest of the member countries receives the desired impetus.

The Commerce Ministers of the seven-member States also welcomed the convening of the Inter-Governmental Group (IGG) on trade liberalisation, starting with its meeting in March, 1996 in Sri Lanka. IGG will carry out the second round of trade negotiations for removal of para-tariff, non-tariff and other trade control barriers, within specified time frames. The IGG has also been authorised to consider adopting sectoral and across-the-border approaches, in addition to the product-by-product approach, to accelerate the process. The second round of negotiations are to be concluded by July 31, 1996.

Recognising the importance of exchange of business information for the promotion of trade and investment in the region, the Commerce Ministers agreed on the need for connecting their national business information networks and also linking them to the SAARC secretariat.

INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

Pakistan accused of terrorism

FOR Pakistan the beginning of year was marked by some embarrassing moments, particularly with regard to the long-persisting issue of Pakistan-aided terrorism. For the first time, Russia has accused Pakistan of conniving with Chechen rebels. A Voice of Russia Radio broadcast said that the Chechen rebels who attacked Kizlyar in Daghestan on January 10, 1996, were accompanied by Pakistani terrorists.

On January 18, 1996, Ethiopia, in a letter to the Security Council, alleged that most of the terrorists who carried out an unsuccessful attempt to assassinate Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in Addis Ababa last year, were recruited in Pakistan. Ethiopia alleged that the conspiracy was hatched by Sudanese officials and the

terrorists came from Pakistan. Observers note that the two incidents have once again proved that Pakistan harbours terrorists and exports terrorism the world over.

Haven for religious bigots: Human rights activists have charged that Pakistan has become a haven for religious bigots. They held a meeting on January 23, 1996 in Islamabad to protest against a rise in religiously motivated violence.

The meeting said that religious intolerance in Pakistan was spreading and blamed it on lawmakers who are afraid to confront the Islamic fundamentalists. Human rights groups at home and abroad have charged Benazir Butto's government for failing to repeal harsh Islamic laws, like the blasphemy law which carries a death sentence for anyone found guilty of insulting Islam or the Prophet.

Sudan Warned: The Security Council has asked Sudan to extradite to Ethiopia three suspects wanted thought to be involved in an unsuccessful assassination attempt on Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in Addis Ababa last year. It also asked Sudan from engaging in terrorist activities and to provide shelter to terrorist elements. The resolution came in response to an Ethiopian request to the Council to take up the issue.

The US has meanwhile decided to pull out all its diplomats and their families from Sudan to save them from terrorist attacks following the Security Council warning. The US also advised its 2,100 citizens in Sudan to leave the country.

BANGLADESH

Begum Zia Elected

PRIME Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and nine of her cabinet colleagues are among the 41 candidates of the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) who have been elected unopposed prior to the general elections which have been boycotted by the major Opposition parties. The BNP candidates were elected unop-

posed because there was either no nomination filed against them, or their rivals' nominations were found to be invalid. The BNP has put up candidates in all the 300 seats for the elections to be held in February, 1996.

The main Opposition parties, the Awami League, the Jatiya Party and the Jamaat-E-Islami boycotted the poll and vowed to foil it. They accuse the Begum Zia government of rigging the Parliamentary by-elections in 1994 and said that they will not contest if the elections were not held under a neutral caretaker administration.

Elections not to be postponed: Bangladesh Chief Election Commissioner Justice A. Sadeq turned down the Opposition request to cancel the February 15 elections on constitutional grounds. He said that he cannot cancel the elections because of his constitutional obligations.

SRI LANKA

Colombo blast leaves 200 killed

TERROR struck the Sri Lanka's capital on January 31, 1996 when an alleged LTTE suicide squad rammed a truckload of explosives into the Central Bank building. About 200 people were killed and 1,250 injured. The LTTE had vowed to strike back in retaliation against the army takeover of Jaffna. Many buildings were damaged in the explosion. The governor of the Central Bank said that 40 of his staff died.

The police made quick arrests and identified members of a Tamil Tiger rebel suicide squad, who were believed to be behind the bombing. Two other members of the hit squad, who had jumped out of the truck, were also arrested. President Chandrika Kumaratunga said that the rebels attacked in desperation after suffering military setbacks and realising that the Tamil people are supporting a proposal to give them limited autonomy in some areas of the country.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL

JAPAN

Hashimoto becomes PM

ON January 5, 1996, Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama, the nation's first Socialist head of government in half a century and Chairman of the Japanese Socialist Party, resigned. President of the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Ryutaro Hashimoto, became the Prime Minister of Japan on January 11, 1996. In the election for the post Hashimoto got 288 votes against 167 by Ichiro Ozawa, leader of Shinshinto (New Frontier Party), Japan's Opposition party.

Hashimoto, who rose to prominence last year for his tough stance against United States over the 'car-trade row', has become the first LDP leader to become the Prime Minister since the party was ousted in 1993. The LDP had dominated Japanese politics for four decades. It was ousted in July, 1993 following a series of money scandals. Japan has seen political turmoil since then. The coalition government led by Morihiro Hosokawa was formed in 1993 but he had also to resign in April 1994, over allegations in a money scandal. Tsutomu Hata, who was named the Prime Minister resigned two months later to avoid a no-trust move. This resulted in the return to power for LDP, who struck a deal with the Socialists. Murayama had become Prime Minister as a result of an alliance and lasted for 18 months.

SOUTH KOREA

Former President indicted

FORMER South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan, was on January 12, 1996 formally charged with accepting bribes worth \$ 875 million from business groups in the country. Following a month-long investigation into a slush fund allegedly maintained by Chun, an announcement to this effect was made by a senior prosecutor from the Seoul District Prosecutors

Office. Prosecutors also indicted five of Chun's former aides on charges of helping their boss build up illicit funds or take bribes from business leaders.

CHINA

Orphan Abuse in China

HUMAN Rights Watch, a New York group, put out a report accusing China of systematic abuse of children in orphanages, including deliberate starvation, torture and sexual assault. The report was prepared with the help of Zhang Shuyun, a doctor who fled China after she failed to stop the abuse. The report contains photographs, secret documents and medical records to prove the charges. At least 1,000 orphans are believed to have died in Shanghai between 1986 and 1992.

China Promotes Panchen Lama: Gyaltzen Norbu, the six-year-old Chinese-designated eleventh Panchen Lama was shown on the national television of China on January 12, 1996. His presence with top Chinese leaders in Beijing was highly publicised to assert and exhibit China's full control over Tibet, in spite of protests from Dalai Lama's supporters. On the other hand, on January 19, 1996, Amnesty International expressed its concern about the missing Dedhun Choekyi Nyima, the six-year-old eleventh Panchen Lama who was enthroned by Dalai Lama. The Chinese officials maintain that the boy is safe in Tibet.

Takeover of Hong Kong: With an eye on taking over Hong Kong on July 1, 1997, China took another decisive step on January 26, 1996 by setting up a committee which will choose 400 people to recommend a replacement for Governor Chris Patten.

China also announced that it will station a military force in Hong Kong which will be set up from elite units that fought in the Korean war and helped secure China's claim to South China Sea Islands. At present Britain has 3,250 troops who will leave by June 30, 1997, when it hands over administration of one of the world's

most prosperous and capitalist cities to China's communist leaders.

While China is yet to establish its sovereignty over Hong Kong, Chinese President Jiang Zemin announced Chinese aspiration to recover Macao and Taiwan in due course.

WEST ASIA

Arafat Wins Elections

ON January 20, 1996, in their first elections, Palestinians cast ballots for a president and a legislative council to govern them in West Bank and Gaza Strip. More than one million people voted. Despite the boycott by Hamas, there was a 90% turnout in Gaza and 68% in the West Bank. PLO chairman Yasser Arafat was elected as the first President of the fledgling Palestinian State with a landslide victory securing 88% of the votes. Samiha Khalil, the lone challenger, got 9%. Arafat's Fatah Party won 66 of the 88 seats in the national council.

The election cemented Arafat's transformation from guerilla chief to leader of a State-in-making. Under Arafat's leadership, most Palestinian towns in the West Bank and Gaza gained autonomy, giving people, long governed by foreigners, their first taste of self-rule. Except for a dissenting voice from Iran, the outcome of Palestinian historic elections was widely hailed by world leaders.

Israel and PLO are to launch talks on a final peace settlement in May, 1996. The PLO is expected to demand full Statehood in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem. Israel has, however, ruled out any division of Jerusalem. Israel has also made it clear that it expects Arafat to annul clauses in the PLO charter calling for the destruction of the Jewish State.

GREECE

Ailing Papandreou resigns

WITH the resignation of its ailing Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou

CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL

on January 16, 1996, a growing leadership crisis ended in Greece. Papandreou, 76, had been in intensive care for nearly two months and the opposition had been pressurising him to step down. His Socialist party, however, was paralysed on the issue. Under the Constitution, Mr Papandreou could be replaced only if he died or resigned.

Mr Costas Simitis, a German educated lawyer, economist and technocrat, was elected as the new Prime Minister. In the election Simitis got 86 votes as against 75 by his opponent, Akis Tsohatzopoulos. Besides his epoch making term as Economy Minister in 1985-87, Simitis has had major portfolios in all the cabinets of Socialist Parliamentary Group.

ITALY

Prime Minister Dini resigns

TO avoid a defeat in a no-confidence vote, Italian Prime Minister Lamberto Dini resigned on January 11, 1996. Dini was appointed at the beginning of 1995 to head a Cabinet of non-political 'technicians' whose main task was to enact austerity measures. In October, Dini had saved his government in a no-confidence vote by promising to resign before the year's end. The political turmoil that began in late December when Dini offered his resignation to the President, Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, is likely to continue and may well be leaving Italy with the possibility of fresh national elections.

Italy has been without an elected government since Conservative media magnate Silvio Berlusconi was forced to resign in December 1994, after remaining in power for just seven months. Political parties have sprouted since Italy's old governing class collapsed in corruption scandals. The current Parliament, elected in March 1994, is so splintered that no bloc can command a majority. Virtually all forces in the Parliament agree that the

system of elections, government and Parliament are in dire need of reform to give Italy the stability it lacks.

POLAND

Communists form government

AFTER weeks of mounting allegations, Polish Prime Minister Jozef Oleksy announced his resignation on January 24, 1996 over security service charges that he had spied for Moscow. His resignation came after the announcement by the Warsaw military prosecutor's decision to launch a formal probe into evidence gathered against him.

The move put an end to Oleksy's battle for survival since he was accused of spying for Russia from 1980 when he was a provincial communist official until 1995 when he was democratic Poland's parliamentary speaker. The charges were made by former Interior Minister Andrzej Milczanowski with the support of former President Lech Walesa. Oleksy claims to be innocent.

Following Oleksy's resignation, the President, on February 1, 1996, asked ex-Communist leader Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz to form a new government in an effort to end the cabinet crisis. Cimoszewicz became Poland's seventh Prime Minister since the end of the Communist regime in 1989.

NIGER

Civilian government formed after coup

BARELY 33 months after its remaining with the first democratically elected President, Niger came under military rule following a bloody coup on January 27, 1996. President Mahamane Ousmane was arrested. He had become, in April 1993, the first democratically elected President of Niger since 1970. For the past one year, he had been locked in a

political standoff with his opponents. On February 1, 1996, Niger's Prime Minister Boukari Adji formed a civilian government after his nomination by the nation's military rulers.

COLUMBIA

Drug money scandal

THE campaign treasurer of President Ernesto Samper Pizano revealed that \$400,000 of drug money was distributed by him during the 1994 elections in Bogota. The charges further erode the credibility of Samper in the face of mounting evidence that he took cash from the world's biggest drug cartel. Samper has refused to resign and called for a national referendum on whether he should stay in office. Demonstrations are taking place in the country for Samper's resignation.

India weakest emerging market

According to a report of Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka were the weakest emerging markets in 1995. The strongest performances came from Peru and Israel.

The Indian markets saw a decline of 31.9 per cent, Pakistan 38.3 per cent and Sri Lanka 32.7 per cent. On the other hand, Peru and Israel improved by 22.1 per cent and 21.8 per cent respectively.

MSCI Indices, calculated since 1969, are used around the world to measure performances of international securities. Over 3,500 indices are consistently calculated to allow comparisons across regions, countries and industries. The MSCI database reflects approximately 80 per cent of the world's equity market capitalisation.

Switzerland finished 1995 as the top performing world stock market. It was followed by United States.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL

USA-CHINA

China demands US to limit ties with Taiwan

CHINA demanded on February 1, 1996 that the US keep ties with Taiwan non-official. It added that it had made serious representations to Washington over its issue of a transit visa to a top Taiwanese official. Foreign ministry official Chen Jian urged the US not to create conditions in which Taiwan could conduct activities aimed at independence.

China repeats threat: China's Premier Li Peng repeated the threat about Taiwan that any move toward independence would prompt a military attack. In a speech on January 30, 1996, he said that Taiwan was a part of China and that China will try for peaceful reunification. China, he said, would use force against foreign forces plotting to promote Taiwan's independence.

GREECE-TURKEY

Tension eases

GREECE swallowed its pride in its dispute with Turkey and agreed to remove its flag from a deserted Aegean island after sending its navy ships to protect it. Both countries bowed to US pressure and began withdrawing their warships on January 31, 1996. The agreement was struck through US Foreign Affairs Representative Richard Holbrooke and the countries agreed that they would not fly their flags on disputed rocks, to avoid provocation.

USA

Trade Centre bombing accused sentenced

SHEIKH Omar Abdel-Rahman, the blind Muslim cleric from Egypt and nine of his followers have been given long prison sentences for plotting to blow up the UN and FBI offices, highway tunnels and other New York area landmarks in a single day of terror on February 26, 1993. The sentencing came nearly two years after the conviction of four men in the World Trade Centre bombing in New York, which killed six people and injured over 1000. The conspirators have not been directly charged, but were accused of being part of the organisation that carried it out.

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Current General Knowledge

ABBREVIATIONS

ARF: Asean Regional Forum

CTBT: Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty

IRA: Insurance Regulatory Authority

AWARDS

Ashok Chakra

CAPT Arun Singh Jasrotia of Parachute Regiment and Maj Rajiv K. Joon of 22 Grenadiers, were decorated with the *Ashok Chakra* posthumously for their gallantry during operations in J&K.

G.D. Birla Award

FOUNDER of SOS villages, J.N. Kaul, prominent Russian Indologist R.B. Rybakov and Gujarat's Kaira District Co-operative Milk Union, have been selected for the G.D. Birla awards for 1996. Each award carries a citation and a cash prize of Rs 2 lakh.

Indira Gandhi Award for International Justice and Harmony

PRESIDENT of South Africa, Dr Nelson Mandela, has been conferred the Indira Gandhi award for International Justice and Harmony. The award is instituted by the Indian Council of World Affairs.

International Gandhi Award for Leprosy

DR Noordeen of India and Ms Jean Watson of the UK have been awarded the International Gandhi Award for Leprosy for their work in leprosy eradication.

Jnanpith Award

RENOWNED Malayalam writer M.T. Vasudevan Nair was selected for the prestigious Jnanpith award for 1995 for his enrichment of Indian literature through his creative writing. The award carries a plaque, a bronze replica of Vagdevi and a cash prize of Rs 2.5 lakh.

Kalidas Samman

TABLA wizard Ustad Alla Rakkha Khan has been selected for the Kalidas Samman for classical music for 1994-95. The award has been instituted by the Madhya Pradesh government and carries a plaque and a cash prize of Rs 1 lakh.

Sanjay and Geeta Chopra Awards

THE winner of this year's Geeta Chopra award is 11-year old Anita Rawat of Uttar Pradesh, who put up a brave front in resisting the attempts of some Holi revellers who had tried to molest her.

Sudhir Sardana of Haryana was selected for the Sanjay Chopra award for getting an intruder arrested who had killed his father.

Vachaspati Puruskar

PANDIT Amir Chand Shastri has been selected for the fourth Vachaspati Puruskar, instituted by the K K. Birla Foundation, for his work *Nehru Charit Mahakavyam*, depicting in poetry Nehru's life based on his autobiography. The prize has been instituted to honour Sanskrit writers and translators.

BOOKS

Angry Letters

WRITTEN by Willem Doevenduin, the book advises readers how to vent their anger in a rage-filled letter. It shows that sarcastic humour often is successful but writing an angry letter is a serious matter and requires careful planning.

In Confidence

WRITTEN by Anatoly Dobrynin, Soviet Ambassador to the US for 20 years, it reveals that Soviet intervention helped prevent the 1971 Indo-Pakistan breaking up West Pakistan, thus averting the latter's total defeat.

DEFENCE

Longer-range Prithvi tested

THE longer range variant of the indigenously developed *Prithvi* surface-to-surface missile was successfully tested for the first time from the interim test range at Chandipur-at-Sea in Orissa.

The *Prithvi* variant is being developed for the Indian Air Force and has a range of 250 km. More test flights are required before it is cleared for induction into the IAF. The *Prithvi* SS-150 has been tested 14 times including two user trials in June 1994.

Prithvi is one of the five missiles which forms part of the indigenous Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme.

Advanced light helicopter launched in Bangalore

THE fourth and final prototype of the Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) was launched at Bangalore on January 22, 1996.

Designed and developed by the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), the helicopter incorporates state-of-the-art technology.

It has a maximum continuous speed of 290 km per hour, a range of 800 km and an endurance of four hours with a 20 minute reserve. The latest ALH has low noise and vibration levels and is designed to operate in very demanding conditions ranging from high and cold Himalayan passes to hot and dry deserts and wet jungles.

Arjun to go into production

INDIA'S Main Battle Tank (MBT) *Arjun*, will soon go into serial production after over a decade of research and trials.

Armed with a computer controlled integrated fire control system, *Arjun* has already undergone rigorous trials by the Army in various locations, including deserts. The MBT will be inducted into

the Army by the end of this year or beginning of 1997.

Arjun has a reliable and effective weapon system and would considerably enhance the combat capabilities of the Army. With a top speed of 70 km per hour, it has a rifled 120 mm gun which can fire the newly developed super velocity "Fin Stabilised Armour Piercing Discarding Sabot (FSAPDS)" ammunition. The tanks have safety systems against nuclear and chemical warfare.

FILMS

27th International Film Festival of India

MS Li Shao-Dong of China won the Golden Peacock at the 27th International Film Festival of India for her film 'Blush' in the competitive section for Asian Women Directors. She was presented the award and a cash prize of Rs 5 lakh at the closing ceremony of the festival held in New Delhi.

The five-member jury awarded the Special Jury Award for artistic excellence to be shared by two women directors—the Lebanese film 'the Freedom Gang' directed by Leyla Asaf-Tengroth and the Iranian film 'The Blue-Vieled' directed by Rakshan Bani-Etemad. These two directors share the Silver Peacock award as well as its cash component of Rs 2.5 lakh.

The Silver Peacock for the Most Promising Asian Woman Director went to Ms Ning Ying of China for her film 'On the Beat'.

PERSONS

Mitterand, Francois

FORMER French President Francois Mitterand died in Paris at the age of 79. Known for his intelligence, memory, reserve and ferocious irony, he had authored several books, including *The Wheat and the Chaff* which outlined his political philosophy. He single-handedly built France's Socialist Party into a strong political force. He became President in 1981, defeating Giscard D'Estaing. Re-elected in 1988, he remained in office till May, 1995, to become the longest serving French President.

Nair, M.T. Vasudevan

NOTED Malayalam writer and editor of *Mathrubhoomi* group of publica-

tions, Mr Nair has been selected for the 31st Jnanpith award for 1995 for his contribution to the enrichment of Indian literature.

Mr Nair, 61, has written many literary works including eight novels and screen plays for over a dozen movies. These include the film 'Nirmalayam' which won the President's gold medal and 'Oru Vadakkan Veeragatha' which won the national award for best screen play. He had earlier won the Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award and later the Central Sahitya Akademi Award in 1970.

Rao, Nandamuri Taraka Rama

ACTOR turned leader N.T. Rama Rao, or 'NTR' as he was popularly known, died on January 18, 1996.

Born in a remote Nimmakuru village of Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh, Rama Rao joined filmhood with *Na Desam* (My Country) and stormed into politics with the slogan *Na Prajalu* (My People). He floated the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) in 1982 when he was 60 and always had a finger on the pulse of the people. He featured in 330 Telugu films and enacted mostly mythological roles.

His major achievement was that he represented the only political force that defeated the Congress (I) in Andhra.

PROJECTS

New radiation source being built

INDIA joins a select band of nations which have the capability to build large synchrotron radiation source, one of the most sophisticated scientific tools. The Centre for Advanced Technology (CAT) at Indore is currently commissioning a large 450 MEV (Million Electron Volts) synchrotron radiation source and has also started work on a larger 2 GEV (Giga Electron Volts) synchrotron radiation source.

Besides Japan, India is the only Asian country which has embarked on such a programme.

The accelerators were used for industrial and medical applications like sterilisation of medical equipment, shrink film for packaging, increasing the fire resistance of cables, disinfect-

ing sewage sludge, instant curing of paints and inks on metals, and also to study the structure of a wide range of materials.

Tuticorin to be a 'hub port'

TUTICORIN in Tamil Nadu, a strategically located port on the eastern coast, very near to the international sea route, will soon be developed into a 'hub port' with a total investment of Rs 4,000 crore entirely from the private sector.

Once it is developed in another five years' time, almost the entire Indian cargo would be handled through this port. At present 87 per cent of the Indian cargo goes to Dubai, Colombo and Singapore and only 13 per cent of it is being directly handled by major ports in the country.

Global tenders had been invited and five parties have responded. An estimated Rs 4,000 crore including some Rs 2,000 crore for equipment would come from private companies for developing the outer harbour project.

RESEARCH

World's maiden keyhole heart surgery

HEART surgery through a keyhole was realised for the first time in world at B.M Birla Heart Research Centre (BMBRC) in Calcutta on December 30, 1995.

A hole in the heart of a Bangladesh student was closed by video-assisted technique in which a microchip camera and precision instruments were employed by Dr Devi Shetty and his 11-member team.

A small incision was made on the right side of the chest and a three-chip camera was inserted inside the chest cavity to visualise the heart. This gave a magnified image of the heart on the TV screen which was mounted in front of the patient. The surgeons, while looking at the TV screen, inserted the instruments through the small incision. The actual operation was then undertaken.

The main advantage of the technique was that it involved just one cut on the heart instead of four to five as in traditional methods. It left just a small scar on the patient, while usual operations would

leave a long scar of 10 inches.

The operation costs between Rs 75,000 to Rs 1,05,000, but it is expected to come down.

SPACE

New planets found

US space scientists claimed to have discovered two new planets whose environments might be able to support life.

The giant planets, 35 light-years away from earth, are thought to have surface conditions that would allow the formation of water in liquid form, and therefore, life.

Geoffrey Marcy, the San Francisco State university astrophysicist, who made the discovery along with fellow researcher Paul Butler, discovered the new planets in the Virgo and Ursa major constellations. The Planets are bigger than Jupiter, but not visible to the naked eye.

One of the planets is thought to have a surface temperature of 185 degrees Fahrenheit (85 degrees Celsius), below water's

boiling point of 212 degrees Fahrenheit.

MISCELLANEOUS

Times Response on-line

In a pioneering effort, The Times of India becomes the first media house in the country to offer to advertising agencies access to Respuet, an all encompassing software package for advertising, space reservation, scheduling, billing and credit operations, through Times Response On-line.

Respnet is a networked application interconnecting 30 important cities in India. It is second only to the Indian Airlines Reservation System with a gateway to Internet.

This service, which commenced on January 22, 1996, facilitates an agency to log-in directly to this network through a dial-up modem.

Agencies can now make reservations in any Times publications, and make enquiries and ascertain the status of confirmed bookings irrespective of the

edition.

Shopping through the computer

COMPUTER shopping is becoming a fact of life and will start to threaten conventional shopping malls by the end of the century.

New "virtual" malls, such as Shop Inc of San Mateo, California, and the London-based Barclay Square, are creating shopping facilities including services such as travel, banking, bookshops, wine, and flowers.

On-line newspapers and financial services are offered, as well as one which takes orders for groceries on-line and delivers them.

Retailers will be able to offer huge amounts of goods and bargains round the clock, without the expenses of property or staff. Stocks will be zero as goods are ordered direct from the manufacture.

It is expected that by 2010, up to 55 per cent of shopping by Americans will be conducted on-line.



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SPORTS

ARCHERY

FITA National Archery Championship

LIMBA Ram of Rajasthan and Purnima Mahato of Bihar emerged champions in the men and women's sections respectively in the 17th senior FITA National Archery Championship held at Cuttack.

Gangadhar Madhi of Orissa and Bahasoren of Bihar were declared overall champions in the third senior (Indian round) national archery meet. Bihar's teams won the team championship title in the FITA round while Orissa set a new record winning the Indian round men's team championship.

ATHLETICS

Pune International Marathon

JOSEPH Kahugu, a Kenyan athlete, won the Pune International Marathon. Peter de Vocht of Belgium and Giridharilal of Services repeated last year's performance for second and third places.

In the women's half marathon section, Leelamma of Western Railways came first followed by Grace Chebet of Kenya and Usha Verma of Railways.

BADMINTON

Bristol National Championship

HOLDERS of the men and women's titles Dipankar Bhattacharya and P.V. Laxmi retained the Bristol National Badminton Championship played at Bharuch. They beat rivals Gopi Chand and Aparna Popat respectively in close matches to retain their titles.

CRICKET

World Cup Mascot

"GOOGLEE" is the official mascot of the

Willis World Cup which was launched by Madhavrao Scindia, chairman of the organising committee, PILCOM.

England-South Africa Series

ENGLAND'S first tour to South Africa in 30 years ended with a series win for South Africa. Shaun Pollock took 5 wickets to lead his team to victory in the final Test at Cape Town.

Australia-Sri Lanka

AUSTRALIA won the series against Sri Lanka 3-0 as Steve Waugh completed a brilliant all-round performance in the third Test played at Adelaide.

Polly Umrigar Trophy

REST of India beat champions North Zone to lift the Polly Umrigar Trophy played at Panaji.

FOOTBALL

Durand Cup

EAST Bengal won the prestigious Durand Cup football tournament 4-3 against the Tata Football Academy played at New Delhi.

HOCKEY

Olympic Qualifying Tournament

INDIA weathered a late Canadian blitz to record a 2-1 victory in the Olympic qualifying tournament played at Barcelona and secured a place in the Atlanta Olympics. India earned eight points from three wins and two draws and made sure of finishing among the top five from the eight-nation tournament.

Lal Bahadur Shastri Tournament

CENTRAL Reserve Police Force beat Border Security Force 4-1 to claim the title in the sixth All India Lal Bahadur

Shastri hockey tournament played at New Delhi.

SNOOKER

Senior National Snooker Title

TAMIL Nadu's Siddharth Rao upstaged holder Sarang Shroff of Maharashtra to win the 62nd Senior National Snooker Title played at Bhubaneswar.

TENNIS

Hopman Cup

CROATIA won the Hopman Cup team tennis championship played at Perth after the Swiss Olympic champion March Rosset injured his right hand on an advertising board. The Croatian team was trailing behind the Swiss team when Rosset signalled that he could not continue, thereby forfeiting the final set of the doubles match.

Australian Open

MONICA Seles made a stunning comeback to tennis by winning her fourth Australian Open title played at Melbourne, beating Germany's Anke Huber. Seles had won the title for three straight years before she was stabbed in Hamburg in 1993.

Boris Becker won the men's title beating Michael Chang, more than a decade after the first of his six Grand Slam titles.

Teenager Majoli emerges as a threat

CROATIAN teenager Iva Majoli has emerged as a threat to the grip of women's tennis, held by Monica Seles and Steffi Graf. Majoli overcame Seles at the Toray Pan Pacific Open in Tokyo, becoming a challenger to the ruling duopoly. She defeated former world champion Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario in the final to win the championship.

The Examiner's Guess Questions

Q. What is the new support price for wheat?

Ans. According to the recommendations of the Committee on Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the minimum support price for wheat for 1996-97 would be Rs 380 per quintal, which is Rs 20 (5.6%) higher than last year.

Q. What is the growth rate of India's GDP?

Ans. According to quick estimates of the Central Statistical Organisation, India's GDP registered a growth of 6.3% in 1994-95 as against 5% the previous year. GDP at factor cost at current prices stood at Rs 2,51,010 crore in 1994-95 as against Rs 2,36,064 crore. At current prices, it is estimated at Rs 8,54,103 crore, showing an increase of 18.1% during the year.

Q. What is the renegotiated rate of tariff fixed for the Dabhol power project being set up by Enron?

Ans. Rs 1.86 paise per unit. Maharashtra government has cleared the Enron, Reliance and Ispat projects.

Q. Where was the 27th International Film Festival held?

Ans. New Delhi. It was inaugurated by film veteran B. R. Chopra.

Q. What is the percentage of people living below the poverty line?

Ans. An analysis of the Planning Commission shows that percentage of people below the poverty line was 18.96 in 1993-94, which represents 168.56 million people.

Q. Which is the world's most expensive watch?

Ans. The Kalista timepiece which was recently displayed at the Singapore Art Museum. Its frame is sculpted out of pure gold and it has 118 diamonds, weighing

130 carats and took over 6000 hours of labour to make.

Q. What is the new name of Bombay's Victoria Terminus?

Ans. Chhatrapati Shivaji Railway Terminus. The railway terminus was founded in 1853.

Q. Which Marathi play is seeking entry into Guinness Book of World Records for performing 1000 shows in 2 years?

Ans. Marathi play 'All the Best'. It had its 1000th show on December 31, 1995. It has been produced by a theatre company, Chandralekha.

Q. Which commission was enquiring into the 1992-93 riots in Bombay?

Ans. Srikrishna Commission. It was dissolved by Maharashtra Chief Minister Manohar Joshi on January 23,

1996.

Q. What is India Eco-Development Project?

Ans. The India Eco-Development Project wants to reduce the ill feelings among the population living on fringes of protected areas who depend on forest resources but cannot use them when the forest is declared a protected area. India seeks \$80 million from the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) which was created after the Earth Summit at Rio. Eight protected areas had been selected for the project, including six tiger projects at Ranthambhor in Rajasthan, Pench in Madhya Pradesh, Palamu in Bihar, Simlipal in Orissa, Baksha in West Bengal, Periyar in Kerala, and two national parks, Nagarhole in Karnataka and Gir in Gujarat.

Statement

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I, D.D. Khanna, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
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Signature of Publisher—D.D. Khanna

Appointments Etc

APPOINTED; ELECTED ETC

Jorge Sampaio He has been elected Portugal's President, replacing Mario Soares

Costas Simitis He has been elected Prime Minister of Greece

Ryutaro Hashimoto He has been appointed Japan's Prime Minister, succeeding Tomichi Murayama

Boukari Adj He has been appointed Prime Minister of Niger, replacing Hama Amadou

David Gore Booth Formerly Britain's Ambassador to Riyadh, he has been appointed High Commissioner of UK to India

RESIGNED

Tomichi Murayama Prime Minister of Japan

Andreas Papandreu Prime Minister of Greece

Lamberto Dini Prime Minister of Italy

Jozef Oleksy Prime Minister of Poland
Balram Jakhar Union agriculture minister

Madhav Rao Scindia Human Resource Development Minister

V C Shukla Parliamentary Affairs Minister

L K Advani BJP President

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

Fernando H Cardoso President of Brazil

Jean Chretien Canadian Prime Minister

Avraham Shochat Finance Minister of Israel

Michael Howard UK Home Secretary

DEAD

Francois-Mitterand Former French President and architect of its socialist party, he died in Paris at the age of 79

N T Rama Rao Chairman of National Front and former Andhra Chief Minister he died at the age of 72

Upendra Nath Ashik Renowned Hindi-Urdu novelist

S K Kelkar Noted astrologer and former columnist of the Illustrated Weekly of India, he died at the age of 71 in Pune

D K Barooah One of the most powerful Congress leaders of the 1970s

Nadia Legendary stunt queen, acclaimed as India's most dare-devil artiste, she died at 87 after a prolonged illness

—India conducts flight trial of its surface-to-surface guided missile "Prithvi" from Interim Test Range at Chandipur

—US President Clinton lifts the five-year old embargo on the delivery of arms to Pakistan

28—France sets off a nuclear test, its sixth, at Fangataufa atoll in the South Pacific

30—French President Jacques Chirac announces an early end to his country's nuclear tests

—The Supreme Court directs the CBI and other agencies to expeditiously conduct investigations into accusations made against every person in the Jain hawala case

31—More than 100 people are killed in Colombo in an attack by a suspected ITTL suicide squad

FEBRUARY

2—Nearly 100 persons are killed in a Central China explosion

4—India rejects US call to halt the test firing of the Prithvi missile and asserts its deployment would depend on the country's threat perception

—At least 228 people are killed and 3700 seriously injured in an earthquake in China

5—Rupee falls to a historic low of Rs 38 30 against the US dollar

7—Court issues non-bailable warrants against former Union Minister, Mr Kalpnath Rai, for allegedly sheltering Bombay bomb-blast suspects

EVENTS

JANUARY

8—Maharashtra government decides to revive the Enron power project fixing the tariff at Rs 1 86 per unit

9—India's Main Battle Tank (MBT) Arjun is dedicated to the nation

—Chechen rebels take 3000 persons hostage in their war with the Russian army

11—Supreme Court asks the government and the Election Commission to sort out the issue of holding early elections in J&K within two weeks

15—Chechen rebels kill 42 volunteers who had offered themselves hostage in exchange for civilians

16—CBI informs Supreme Court that it has sought Presidential sanction to prosecute three Union ministers and filed chargesheets against seven others in the hawala scandal

—BJP President L K Advani resigns following CBI chargesheet alleging acceptance of bribes in the hawala case

17—Senior cabinet ministers Balram Jakhar, V C Shukla and Madhavrao Scindia resign

18—N T Rama Rao, former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, passes away

21—PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat wins a landslide victory in self rule elections in West Bank, the Gaza strip and east Jerusalem in compliance with the Palestine-Israeli peace agreement

23—The CBI files chargesheets against former ministers Madhavrao Scindia, Balram Jakhar and V C Shukla in the hawala case

27—Niger's first democratically elected President is ousted in a military coup and put under house arrest

MILESTONES

Sandhya Chibb: Bangalore beauty Sandhya Chubb is the Femina Miss India (Universe) 1996.

Rani Jayraj: Also of Bangalore, she won the Femina Miss India (World) 1996.

Mini Menon: Delhi beauty Mini Menon was chosen as Femina Miss India Asia Pacific Quest.

Ravi Kant Sharma: Senior IPS officer Ravi Sharma has the rare distinction of being the first police officer to have joined Interpol

Anees Ibrahim Kaskar: Brother of underworld don Dawood Ibrahim and prime accused in the Bombay blasts case, Anees was arrested by Interpol in Bahrain. CBI will seek his extradition.

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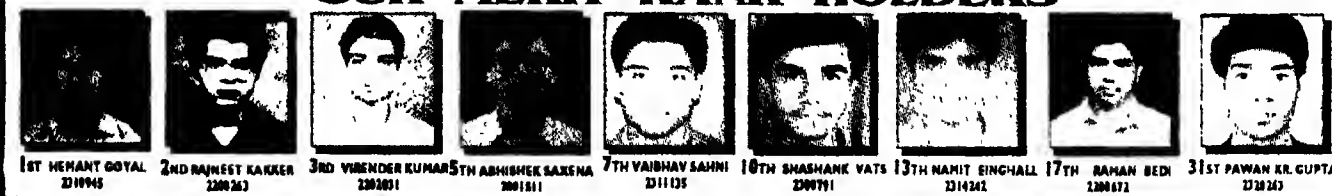
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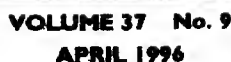
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THE COMPETITION

MASTER

From the Desk of the

Editor



Dear Masters,

It was the battle of the century. Kasparov battled an IBM computer and lost the first game. It was more than the grandmaster who was shattered. It was our pride in being human. Was it true that machines were finally becoming more intelligent? Would they slowly take over the world as many science fiction thrillers have predicted? Would man be subordinate to the very machines he has created?

Kasparov finally won the match, against huge odds. The computer evaluates 100 million positions per second, the best that any man can do is perhaps 2 per second. Kasparov's victory showed that there was something beyond the calculations, something that machines could not have. And that is intuition. Otherwise, there is no way to explain man's victory over a machine that does 100 million calculations per second.

But then, it is only a matter of time that man develops a faster machine, a machine that can evaluate everything and make the best move. Will a man like Kasparov, who took on the entire national chess team of Brazil, then bite dust? Should that happen, what will it mean? It would be difficult to accept a machine as superior to man.

Fortunately, it is not like that. There are many things that a machine cannot have: things like emotion and feeling. Without these, neither man nor machine can be complete. Ultimately, it is man that wins. As Feng Hsiung Hsu, the IBM researcher who designed Deep Blue, put it, "It is actually man the toolmaker vs man the chess player. Either way, the human wins."

Both ways, it is a triumph of the human spirit. There is a lesson in it for us all. We can achieve the impossible by concentration and practice, like Kasparov, or create something with hard work and team spirit, like the IBM engineers. The game should act as an inspiration to all of us to realise our potential.

Ed Spence

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Prof Yash Pal, former Chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC), while delivering the convocation address of a university, more or less asked the same questions. He should know because our educational system, a highly faulted one, calls for such a comment and scrutiny. It is a different matter that in our over-zealous efforts to improve it, we have created more confusion and unwittingly added more aberrations.

The substance (?) of our present educational system can be summed up in our abject desire to ape the west. We call it correcting the system left to us by the British.

Our efforts burden it more and more against the disadvantaged rural poor, while we proudly go on delivering sermons from lofty university pedestals, in favour of western style development.

One of the major planks of our educational systems is the examination system, which has become redundant and obsolete. The present system, which we follow religiously and to which we naturally attach tremendous amount of sanctity, is, in fact, based on rote system. Its foundation is memory, not knowledge. Its base is ability to reproduce, not to create. As a result, colleges and universities do not act as 'light-houses' of various disciplines. They impart 'lessons' in technology of passing examination, not knowledge.

Students passing out from colleges have a degree under their belt. But do they have in-depth knowledge of a single subject? They carry the degree without burden of knowledge! Ones coming from the rural areas are the worst affected because they forego traditional arts and crafts and get an artificial

sheen in an urban college, which pushes them to the backwaters of society. Thus, we have a mass of "educational community" burdened with and groaning under non-comprehension. Crammers are not learners.

The effect of fierce competition in life and career has been equally unflattering as those who cannot run the race drop out. It scars their psyche. But more damaging than this is that it has created a culture of competition which has percolated down to the parental level. Now parents compete for admission in lower schools level.

Technique has taken the place of knowledge. Those who cannot master the technique, fail, irrespective of how talented they are. It is failure of the system. Education is no longer a valuable asset in itself. Technique polishes, education makes man.

"Education forms the common mind; just as the twig is bent the tree is inclined", said Pope, the 18th century classical poet.

But the present flawed system of education mistakes the tree for the forest. There is excessive emphasis on form, little on the spirit. True,

there is nothing so good as a university education, nor is there anything worse than a university without real education. E.H. Chapin put it so well, "Do not ask if a man has been through college; ask if a college has been through him—if so he is a walking university."

Let's shed the idea we have been nursing for years, that the mind is a warehouse and education a mere process of stuffing it with 'goods'. The real aim of education is to convert the mind into a bubbling, living fountain and not a mere reservoir. That which is filled by merely pumping in, will be emptied by pumping out. So is the examination system. Our educational system, as Sterling said, covers the fingers with rings but cuts the sinews at the wrists.



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READERS' FORUM

The best two letters of the month, appearing in the box, have been awarded a prize of Rs 100.00 each. Readers are invited to send us their views on topics covered in this issue. The decision of the Editors will be final.

INSURGENCY AND CONFLICT

Neglect of human rights of a community is the primary cause behind insurgency. If these are protected, militancy can be reduced.

Harbir Singh Swani
Ambala Cantt

Insurgency is not a good method to achieve anything because it leads to suffering. Prolonged wars do not help anybody.

Subhash Kumar
Rikha, Bihar

Conflicts arise because each group thinks that the other presents a danger to it. They are born out of fear.

Himanshu Shekhar Tripathy
Chatrapur, Orissa

GENETICS

Even though I am a student of biotechnology, I found the cover feature on Genetics full of new information. But I do not think that biotechnology will wipe out small farmers. It will in fact help society as a whole by making medicines and biofertilisers much more easily available.

Priyanka Agarwal
Lucknow

India should not be left behind in the field of genetics. The government should set up laboratories and encourage scientists to take up the study of biotechnology.

Chittaranjan Dash
Bhadrak, Orissa

CULTURE OF CORRUPTION

The culture of corruption can be removed by building better individuals

through moral education. We must build individuals who take their positions as a duty rather than a privilege.

Sameer Chander Mohindru
Jharipani, U.P.

Our leaders should be severely punished, like the Romanian president was a few years back. Though this may seem a strange way of settling matters, it is the only way that politicians can be taught a lesson.

Rahul Jha
Calcutta

Corruption is fast eating into the vitals of our country. Those found guilty of corruption should be banned from contesting elections.

Beena
Bareilly, U.P.

We should choose our leaders through competition based on academic excellence. If we do this, criminals will not be able to enter politics.

Ruchi Kant Saxena
Lucknow

As a result of economic liberalisation, consumer goods are flooding the market. People want to acquire them at all costs. This forces them to become corrupt. A check on consumerism can go a long way in controlling corruption.

Nandita Singh
Munger, Bihar

WHITHER DEMOCRACY

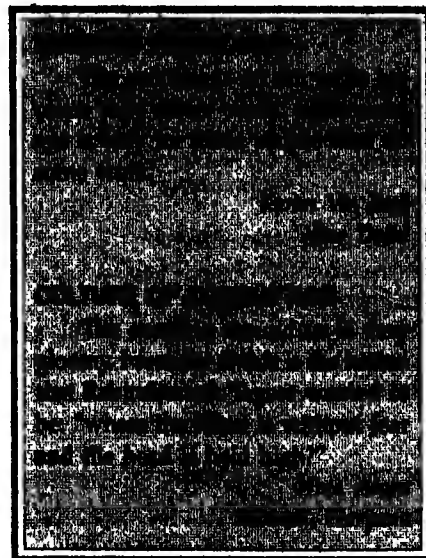
The future of democracy depends on the state of the people themselves. Jawaharlal Nehru said, "No democracy can exist for long in the midst of want, poverty and inequality."

Lalit Kumar Jha
Madhubani, Bihar

CINEMA AND WOMEN'S IMAGE

Cinema has never portrayed the correct image of women. It should in fact create a positive image of women.

S.M. Qasim
Lucknow



If women's image is degraded in films, why do women act in them? Why don't they just refuse such roles?

Rishi
Jaunmu, J&K

CM FEATURES

I have been selected in the Railway Recruitment Board Exam. The credit of my success goes to *Competition Master*. Its features have given me knowledge as well as helped develop my personality.

Keshav Kumar Lal
Patna, Bihar

The feature on Business GK was really helpful. Please make it a regular feature.

Vikas Bansal
Kurukshetra, Haryana

Please continue the questions on socio-economic question papers as they are of great help.

Rajiv Kapoor
Madras

The topics for debate are highly informative. These really help in competitive exams.

Dharmesh Chawda
Dhanbad, Bihar

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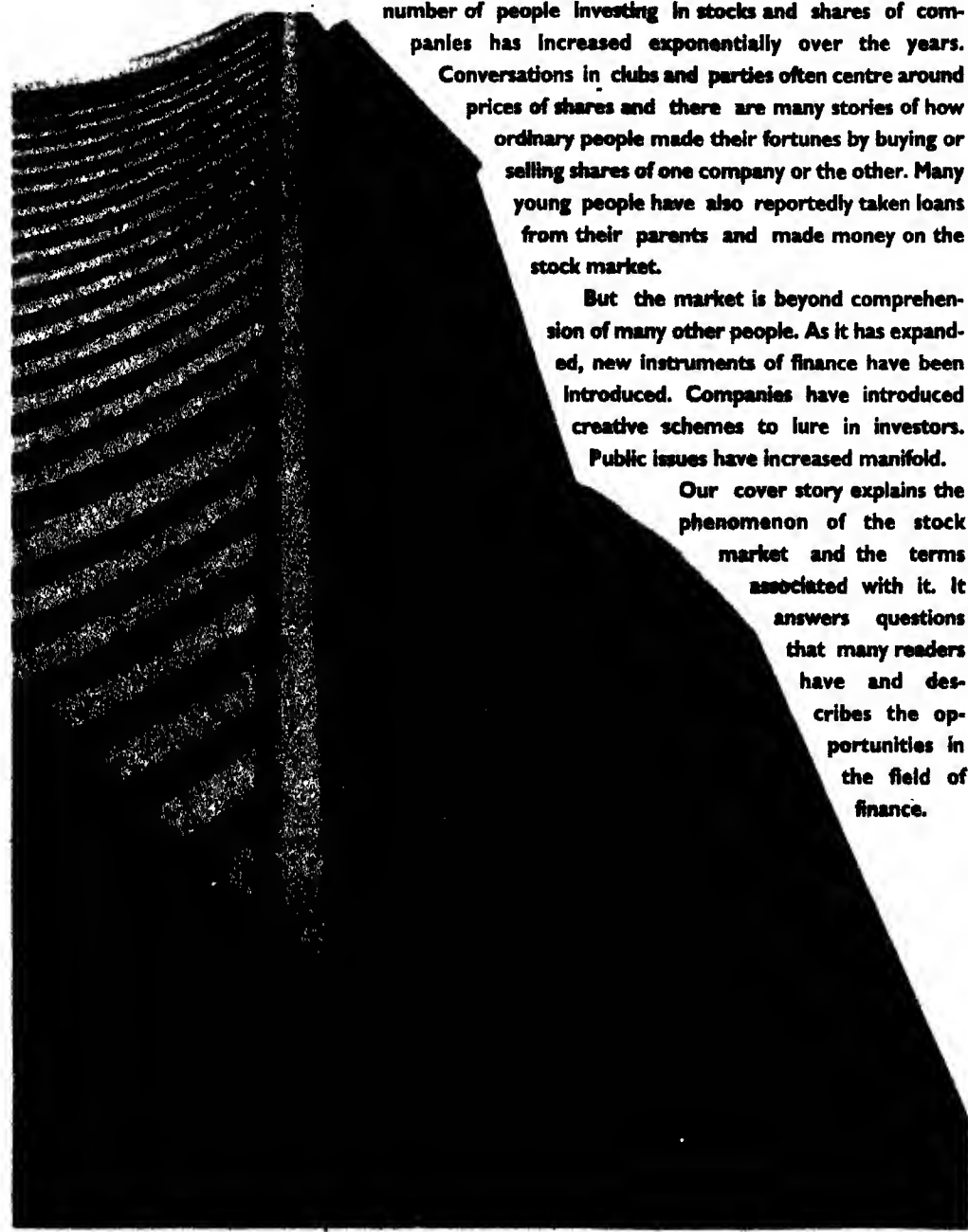
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LEARN IT FROM THE LEADERS

Understanding the Stock Market



The stock market has seen a spectacular rise in India. The number of people investing in stocks and shares of companies has increased exponentially over the years. Conversations in clubs and parties often centre around prices of shares and there are many stories of how ordinary people made their fortunes by buying or selling shares of one company or the other. Many young people have also reportedly taken loans from their parents and made money on the stock market.

But the market is beyond comprehension of many other people. As it has expanded, new instruments of finance have been introduced. Companies have introduced creative schemes to lure in investors. Public issues have increased manifold.

Our cover story explains the phenomenon of the stock market and the terms associated with it. It answers questions that many readers have and describes the opportunities in the field of finance.

Industrial development is fuelled by finance. Huge industrial projects are put up to meet the needs of consumers but these cannot be put up using capital of one man. Finance is required by businessmen to put up their mega projects. On the other hand there are people who have savings and wish to invest them to get the maximum returns. How do we get them together? A means of meeting the objectives of both groups is through the money market, where funds are borrowed and lent and investments made that satisfy the needs of the borrowers and the lenders.

One objective of the lenders is liquidity, that is, the ability to convert the investments into cash when the need so arises. Companies obviously would not be able to accept and return capital on a daily basis. So liquidity is offered by stock markets, where stocks and shares can be sold to buyers as often as one likes. The capital of the company remains intact, what changes is the ownership of the shares.

A well developed stock market is therefore essential to mobilise funds and to meet the objectives of industrial development. Without a money market, few people would come forward to

invest—they would prefer to keep their money in banks and post office accounts. For their part, companies must offer higher returns to lure investors from fixed deposits.

The stock exchange is, thus, like any market where goods are bought and sold, the only difference being that here money is traded. Prices are determined by the laws of supply and demand. If company 'A' reports low profits for an year, people would want to sell its shares. Increased supply would result in lower prices for the shares. Likewise, for highly profitable blue chip companies, people would be interested in buying their shares. Increased demands would push up prices.

However, the stock market responds to other factors as well. Just what are these factors and how these would affect the stock market remain unfathomable. A report of Ganesh idols drinking milk or a rumour about a company can affect share prices in the stock market. People who are able to sense the changes can make their fortunes from the stock market, basically by buying cheap and selling high. But there are no rules to guide the investor.

How it started

A stock exchange is a market for the purchase and sale of shares and securities. Such markets have existed for centuries. They started as regular meetings of people who acted as intermediaries between buyers and sellers of stocks. The meetings were held in a coffee house

CAREERS IN FINANCE

The increase in importance of finance and money markets has boosted career opportunities in finance. You can choose to work in a company by becoming a Chartered Accountant, Company Secretary or MBA (Finance). Some of the highest salaries are paid by this sector. However, high salaries are difficult to sustain in depressed conditions and when this happens companies cut back. A person can choose to work in a company and become its finance manager, or opt for the financial services sector consisting of banks and financial companies. The sector also offers opportunity to open your own practice and help companies raise capital from different sources. The stock market has opened up opportunities to become stock brokers or sub-brokers.

Chartered Accountant: The course is conducted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and can be done at the place of residence of the student. Apprenticeship has to be done with an established firm. A CA starts as a finance executive, rising up to become finance manager. It usually takes 5 years to become a CA.

Company Secretary: According to the Companies Act, every company with a paid up capital of Rs 50 lakh has to appoint a company secretary. Thus the job prospects of a CS are good. The CS looks after the share certificates, investments, loans and other matters. The course is offered by the Institute of Company Secretaries of India. A student can join the foundation course right after class 12 and registrations are open throughout the year. Like the CA, the CS can be done at the place of residence of the student.

Chartered Financial Analyst: A new course started by Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts of India. Though many people are doing it, the course has not yet become as popular as the CA or CS. Usually it is done as an additional qualification. Recently the institute has offered an MBA-CFA programme, that combines it with the MBA degree.

MBA (Finance): Finance specialisation is offered by institutes offering MBA. The MBA (Finance) combines financial knowledge

with marketing knowhow and is thus rated very high. But it is important to do the course from a good institute; lower rung institutes cannot get jobs for all their graduates. A fresh MBA (Finance) from a good institute gets phenomenal salaries—in 1995, Copeland Corporation offered a package of Rs 900,000 per annum to an IIM graduate while other financial companies paid equally well: average salary of a fresh finance graduate was Rs 1,56,000 per annum. This year, however, MBA (Finance) is at a discount and students are finding it difficult to get jobs, a result of depressed market conditions.

Becoming a Stockbroker: Dealing in shares requires you to be a member of a stock exchange. Registration is fairly expensive and an investment is required to get membership. Alternately, one can become a sub-broker to a stock exchange broker and work on his behalf. With the increase in investors, stock brokers have increased their business and many of them make good money.

Financial Research: Another area that a career can be made is that of financial research. Information is required by investors and brokers which might give clues about the financial health of companies or about the movement of stock prices. Indeed, research is a growing field though it is the first to be axed when market conditions are unfavourable.

Money Managers: With the increase in mutual funds, banks and companies investing in the stock market, money managers are also in demand. They are the people who must invest the available funds in the best options available, balancing risk, high returns and liquidity. An understanding of the money markets would be a pre-requisite for this post.

Audit and Consultancy: Another high salary area to meet the needs of the growing market. All companies must have their accounts audited and there is vast scope for audit firms in India. Finance professionals will find this relatively safe area to work in.

COVER FEATURE

or restaurant. For transactions carried out, commissions were earned by the brokers. In London, the brokers used to meet at Jonathan's coffee house and in 1773 they moved to a room in Sweeting's Alley which was called the stock exchange.

In the US, stocks and bonds had to be sold to the public to pay for the cost of the Revolutionary War. But people did not want to invest in them unless they could be sold when cash was required. The brokers decided to meet every day under a tree on Wall Street. These 24 men were the original members of the New York Stock Exchange. That became the first stock exchange in the United States. But stock mar-

kets are older than that. The origin of the Paris market has been traced back to 1138, while the first exchange in Amsterdam was founded in 1611.

Markets have developed to a great extent since those times. But to understand the nature and activities of the stock market, it is important to know the basic terminology and to understand how it all works.

Basic Terminology

A company is started with some initial money, called an investment. Part of this may be in the form of capital and part may be loans. Some of the capital may be

offered to members of the public and this is split up into smaller units called shares. People invest in the company's equity capital when they buy the shares through an open offer, called the public issue. Shareholders are entitled to share the profits when the company makes them. Profits are distributed on the face value of the shares.

If a person buys shares from the market, he must pay the price prevailing at that time. This is called the market price of the share. If shares are quoted at prices higher than the face value, they are said to command a premium while if they are sold below the face value, they are said to be at a discount. To sell or

buy shares, one has to go through a broker who is authorised to deal in shares.

When buying shares, the investor is interested in the financial health of the company. The financial statements give figures which will show how the company is doing. These are the balance sheet and the profit and loss statement. An idea about the size can be obtained from the turnover, or sales of the company. Whether the company is operating efficiently can be seen from its expenses and the net profit figures. A number of ratios are used to indicate the financial health. Some of these ratios are the EPS and the P/E ratio.

The Earning Per Share (EPS) gives the profit that

The CM Market Primer

Though the stock market has increased in size and importance, many of its terms need explaining to the uninitiated. COMPETITION MASTER presents a primer of such terms which will help you understand what it is all about.

Stock Exchange is a market where shares and securities are bought and sold. Transactions are done through a member of the stock exchange called a broker. He buys and sells shares for a commission, which is fixed by the exchange. There are 29 stock exchanges in the country and about 30 million investors.

Share If the total capital of a company is Rs 10 lakhs and shares to the members of the public to contribute to it, it divides

the capital into smaller units, called shares. In this case, it may divide it into 10,000 units of Rs 100 each, which becomes the face value of the shares. A person may invest Rs 1000 by buying 10 units. He will be given a share certificate showing the number of shares he holds. Theoretically, the share holders are part owners of the company. When profits are distributed, each shareholder gets a return according to the face value of the shares held by him.

Group A and B shares Members of stock exchange trade in shares and settlement of these is done through a clearing house. These are Group A shares. Most well known shares are in Group A and speculation is confined to

this group. Group B are non-cleared securities which are settled by members among each other.

Daily prices Prices of shares keep fluctuating on a daily basis. There are a number of reasons for this. Prices may rise if the company declares high profits, or if the demand for its shares increases, or due to inexplicable reasons clubbed under 'market sentiment'. Financial newspapers report price fluctuations every day. Here is an entry from Business Standard of February 20, 1986:

Apollo Tyres 163, 165, 164 P/E 15.1 52 wk H/L 168/110

This means that a Rs 10 share of Apollo Tyres opened at Rs 163 for the day. The second figure indicates the day's highest

price and the third is the day's closing rate. The price earnings ratio for the company is 15.1. The last two figures give the highest and lowest figures for the share over the past 52 weeks.

Blue Chips Safe and the most sought after investments. Blue chip companies are large in size, have good reputations and pay high dividends.

Investment Analysis Investors make an analysis of the companies before investing. When the company's sales, earnings, profits and other factors are taken into account, it is known as fundamental analysis. Others prefer to chart price fluctuations of the share and try to predict where the share will go in the future. This analysis is known as technical analysis. However,

predicting the movement of the share prices is an impossible task as prices are affected by a number of factors.

Odd lots Shares are usually traded in round numbers such as 10, 100 or 1000. A small investor may however end up with something in between. These are odd lots. It is more difficult to sell odd lot shares.

Bulls and Bears Speculators can be said to be bulls or bears. A bull expects prices to go up and buys shares hoping to sell them later at higher prices. Bulls will thus push up prices in the share market. A bear expects prices to fall. He will thus sell shares hoping to buy them later when prices fall. Bears will increase supply and thus will tend to depress markets.

each share of the company earns. The price-earnings (P/E) ratio gives the relationship between the market price of a company's shares and its EPS. A lower P/E means that an investment can be recovered faster. However, there are no thumb rules and companies with high P/E ratios may be better investments than those with lower ratios. Ratios usually have to be combined with other assessment factors to arrive at a proper evaluation.

As can be expected, companies often try to show their results in a more favourable light than they actually are. Turnover and profit figures are inflated and important information is hidden in the notes on accounts which are not carefully read by investors. In recent times, a number of companies have come into notice for price rigging. Notable among these was MS Shoes. Price can also be rigged by intervention in the stock market as well: an artificial demand for shares of a particular company can be created which pushes up prices.

A lot of money is spent in trying to predict the prices of shares. However, it is impossible to do so since share prices respond to a number of factors, political and economic. Sometimes company officials know that an impending announcement will affect prices and pass it on to brokers. This is known as insider information.

Investment in a company can also be made through loans in the form of debentures or bonds. These are

loans carrying fixed rate of interest. Debentures can also be sold through a public issue. Usually, they are secured and redeemable. Secured debentures means that they are backed by the company's assets and are therefore not risky. Convertible debentures means that they can be converted into equity shares after a certain time.

The Indian Stock Market

The growth of the stock market in India is a comparatively recent phenomenon. It was Reliance that expanded the base of people investing in the stock market. The company can be said to have created awareness about stocks

and shares in a country which was dominated by traditional money markets.

The management of the stock market is governed by the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956. Only recognised stock exchanges can function under this Act and must operate within the rules and bye-laws approved by the government. Apart from the stock exchanges in big cities, there is the National Stock Exchange and the Over the Counter Exchange of India. People in smaller towns can buy and sell shares through a network of brokers.

To balance the needs of the investor—high returns, safety, liquidity—companies have offered new and innovative schemes. But the investor still has to be careful,

since a number of questionable companies have come out with public issues leaving the public with their dud shares. Share departments in companies are badly managed and cannot cope with thousands of investors and complaints are common.

With the increase in the number of players in the stock market, volumes of trade have also increased. Computers are used now to meet the growing traffic. Before the days of the computer, prices were displayed on a board and brokers bought and sold by shouting or through gestures, called floor trading. These days a broker can see the prices on his screen and logs in his transaction from his terminal. In India, the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) has an on-line trading system (BOLT) where trading can be done by computer. The National Stock Exchange (NSE) has a National Exchange for Automated Trading (Neat). In the Delhi Stock Exchange, screen based trading has been introduced through the Delhi Online Trading System (Dots).

Computerised systems were necessitated as volumes have grown. The trading volume at BSE was Rs 45,696 crore in 1992-93 which increased to Rs 84,536 crore in 1993-94. On the NSE, the daily net traded volume has increased from Rs 5 crore in 1993 to Rs 100 crore at present. However, the transfer procedures have not changed. As volumes increase, this too might be computerised in the near future.

How the Sensitive Index is Calculated

Most stock exchanges have a weighted average to show the state of the market. Changes in the index show whether markets are depressed or rising. The Bombay Stock Exchange has an index known as the Sensitive Index. It was made in 1986 with 1978-79 as the base year. It takes into account shares of 30 companies. A weighted average is calculated of these shares on a daily basis. It is calculated by computer and can monitor minute to minute changes. Any change in the prices of the shares included for calculating the index will affect the average and thus it is known as the sensitive index. The index will give the state of the market on any given day. A falling index will imply that the market is depressed as a whole and when it rises it would mean that most shares in the market have risen in their prices.

Newspapers report this index daily. Here is the report of the sensitive index for February 20:

Open	High	Low	Close
3502.01	3513.86	3483.33	3483.33

This means that the Sensitive Index opened at 3502.01 and rose briefly during the day but on the whole the market was depressed. It fell by 18.86 points during the day pointing to depressed state of the market. Intelligent investors will buy stocks when the Sensitive Index is down and sell when it rises.

COVER FEATURE

Screen-based trading is also expected to increase volumes further. Investors will be able to see the price for themselves on a screen and make the deal immediately. Earlier, there could be a price differential from the time of the quotation and executing the order and this led to charges of cheating by brokers. As other towns too get connected to computer networks, trading will be facilitated from anywhere in the country.

OTCEI

Small investors face a host of problems in the stock market. They have to depend on brokers and there are delays in payments as also a doubt that the broker fixed the deals at the best price. For investors living in smaller towns, there is also the problem of access to the stock market. To overcome these problems, the Over The Counter Exchange of India (OTCEI) has been set up.

The exchange was set up by a host of financial institutions ICICI, UTI, SBI Caps, IFCL, IDBI, GIC and LIC. Trading at the OTCEI takes place through computers located at different places. Investors may see the quotations and make transactions over the counter. It thus offers greater freedom to the investor. Companies with an issued capital between Rs 30 lakh to Rs 2.5 crore can be listed, but existing companies listed on any other exchange are not included on the OTCEI. Since the exchange caters to the needs of small investors, it was expected that it would expand in volumes and listings.

But the OTCEI has not done well. The exchange has been hit by lack of dynamism and infighting among promoters. Moreover, the SEBI has reformulated its primary market rules such that OTCEI may be starved for listings. Companies too do not like the transparency it offers and prefer to get listed at

other exchanges where stock prices can be easily manipulated.

Mutual Funds

Many investors prefer the mutual fund, which has gained popularity in recent years. Funds of investors are pooled together and the company then makes investments in stocks. The investor thus has a professional money manager working for him and his money is secure. A closed end mutual fund has a fixed number of shares. Shares of such mutual funds are traded at the stock market. An open-ended mutual fund means that investments vary from day to day depending upon the funds available. Investors may buy shares from the company or sell it back at the purchase and re-purchase price fixed by the company. Open-ended mutual funds are not listed at the stock market and the investor deals with the company directly.

The price of the shares of a mutual fund is fixed around the Net Asset Value (NAV) of the share. However, the performance of the fund depends on its money managers and the shares they buy.

Mutual funds have become very popular since 1986 when there was only one such fund, the Unit Trust. Now a number of mutual funds, both in the public as well as in the private sector, are available to investors. A variety of schemes have been offered. Investors have put in about Rs 60,000 crore into mutual funds and this figure is expected to grow.

But mutual funds too slide when the market falls. The NAVs and market price of most mutual funds had declined last year because of the declining market and selling shares of some closed end mutual funds has become difficult. Faced with poor NAVs, funds like Canbank's Canstar and SBI Mutual's Magnum Triple have been unable to meet commitments to investors.

Fund managers say that mutual funds do carry a risk but if investors have a long term view, he is sure to gain. The Association of Mutual Funds of India (Amfi) plans to launch a communication programme, make the funds more investor-friendly and devise a code of conduct to be followed by all funds.

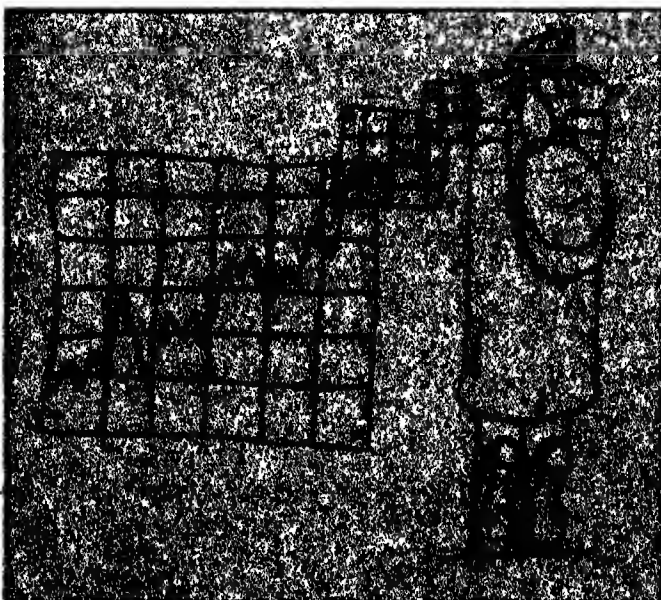
For investors who do not want to invest in stocks directly, mutual funds remain attractive. But the trick is to choose the best funds to invest. Now SEBI may step in to regulate mutual funds as well. The recommendations of the NAV committee set up by it will result in major change in valuation norms and a weekly disclosure of NAVs.

Watchdog of the market



The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

is a watchdog body to keep an eye on capital issues. This was earlier done under the Capital Issues Control Act, 1947 which was repealed in 1992. SEBI replaced the Act





How to Write and Speak Simple and Powerful English

Dear friend,
My name is Raj Bapna. I want to invite you to read this page about my new research-based powerful course "Bapna's English Course".
You can use this easy course to learn quickly how to write and speak confidently simple, correct, and powerful English.

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In one minute, I will teach you how to correctly use will/shall. We call it Bapna's™ Will/Shall Rule. This rule has two parts.

For speaking, always use WILL. In USA, in my 4 years of stay, I never heard anyone using SHALL.

For writing and for exams, use 'LL like I'll, you'll, he'll, she'll, they'll. This is a short-cut. In this way, your sentences will always be correct.

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This Course is for You ... If

- This course is not for all people. It is for you —
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- If you can understand English when others speak, but you are not sure of correct way to write or speak English.
- If you sometimes make mistakes or get confused when speaking English.
- If you have used traditional books/coaching to learn English but did not get success.
- If you are a student, teacher, professor, doctor, engineer, CA, ICWA, CS, MBA, scientist, musician, secretary, phone operator, clerk, house-wife, etc.
- If you are highly motivated to learn simple and powerful English easily and quickly.

I Was Weak in English

I was born in Rajasthan where people are weak in English. I studied in government non-English medium schools. So, I was also weak in English.

On my way to Pilani to join B.E. at Chirawa railway station, I met one P.V. Reddy from Andhra Pradesh who was also going to Pilani to join B.E. I started speaking in Hindi. Mr. Reddy said "I do not know Hindi." It was a surprise and shock for me that someone did not know Hindi. I had never talked in English before and I was not confident of talking in English. So, I said "I do not know English."

My Struggle to Learn English

In Pilani, in the first semester I was a topper with 10 out of 10 grade points, but I was not confident in English. So, I was worried about my weak English.

I bought many books, guides, dictionaries, newspapers. I even read R.K. Narayan's novel "The Guide" to improve my English. I was so bad in English that it took me one month to finish it.

I worked hard, but improvement was very slow. I even thought of dropping one semester, sitting at home, and learning only English. That time I decided "If I become successful in life, I will do something for people from non-English medium schools like myself."

My Dream Come True

I continued to work hard. And finally I got success in America. I improved English and became a successful author in USA. Today, I am happy to offer you this course in English — it is my second dream come true.

My first dream was to teach students "how to study and how to use more mind power" to get success in exams and competitions. That course has changed thousands and thousands of lives in the last 3 years. I am more proud of my research in India

Our New Research

In English, there are many ways to say anything. Some ways are easy and some are difficult and confusing. We did research to find which are easy ways and which are difficult ways for people from non-English medium schools. In this process, we also discovered that some of the world's best magazines and books use the simple ways of writing English. This was an unexpected surprise for our research team.

For example, we found that Reader's Digest uses simple way of writing. (Because that magazine is for English speaking countries, some of the vocabulary is difficult for non-English people.) Similarly, advertisements also use simple English because it is powerful. (Remember that companies pay lakhs of rupees to develop advertisements.)

We developed this new course only for people from non-English medium schools like you.

Easy to Learn 5 Parts

If you can understand this article, you can surely understand my course. And greatly benefit from it. Our belief and experience show that teaching English through simple English is better than learning to translate. Why? Because, it helps students to learn to think in English.

The complete course has 5 parts for easy learning.

- Part 1 Essential English
 - Part 2 Important and Helpful Usage
 - Part 3 How to Write in a Powerful Effective, and Result-Oriented Way
 - Part 4 Advanced Topics
 - Part 5 Mini Spelling Dictionary
- Part 1 is so easy and powerful that, by itself, it is worth more than the full price for the complete course.

Use My Mind Power Expertise

You may know that I am an expert in the fields of Mind Power, Study Techniques, and Computers. I have used this knowledge to make my English course easy to learn and easy to remember for you.

You begin to improve on the very first day you get this course. You learn simple and powerful English with my course in two steps.

Step 1 Study for 1 hour per day. You can complete it in 25 to 40 days.

Step 2 For the next 2 months, revise it for 2 hours per week. After that, for the next 2 months, revise it for 1 hour per week. In this way, your learning will become permanent.

Pocket Cards for Faster Learning

Keep them in your pocket to revise in school, in college, in bus, in park, in playground, or with friends. So you use time which other people waste.

Improve Fluency

Being fluent means that you can write or speak anything in English in flow without hesitation. Some people judge you from how fluent you are in English.

BIO-DATA

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- B.E., BITS Pilani, M.Tech, IIT Kharagpur, NTSE scholar, Rank 5 Raj School Board.
- World-famous author: I published 3 computer books in USA including a best selling book "MS-DOS Masters" costing \$27.95.
- Increased my reading speed from 72 to 1037 words per minute. Was a member of Society for Accelerated Learning & Teaching, USA.
- Expert: computers, study techniques, mind power.
- My first job as an engineer paid only Rs 1000 per MONTH. Just 7 years later, I earned \$50 or Rs 1500 per HOUR in USA as computer expert.
- At the peak of success, I returned to India. I did not take a job. Now, I spend my full time to do research for student's benefit.
- I also learnt French, Sanskrit, Karate, Breaking



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and was given statutory powers under the SEBI Act, 1992. Companies must follow SEBI guidelines. Though many people are of the opinion that it has not done enough to safeguard investor interests, SEBI has played a crucial role to ensure some amount of safety in the market.

However, events in the capital market have shown that SEBI has been reluctant to use its powers. Its reaction to the MS Shoes issue in 1995 as well as the recent Reliance controversy have shown that SEBI still has a long way to go.

Many of SEBI guidelines are not enforced. For instance, though companies are expected to send their draft prospectuses for inspection, few actually do so. Investors continue to be taken for a ride by companies which overprice their issues. In cases where public issues are cancelled by SEBI because of inadequate disclosures, company directors are not penalised or prevented to float similar companies and fool investors.

The SEBI is becoming active after the recent controversies but it is dogged by internal problems. Controlling the stock market consisting of 900 merchant bankers, 125 registrars, 5,200 brokers and underwriters and scrutinising almost 1,500 company prospectuses per year is indeed a huge task. The watchdog must gear up to it if the interests of the investors are to be protected.

SEBI has brought several erring promoters to book. It has also tried to curb price manipulation and insider trading by initiating enquiries

against companies accused of rigging their share prices. But the riggers come out with newer methods of bypassing the watchdog. Several committees have been appointed to make the operations more transparent. One of them, the Malegam committee, has already submitted its report.

Malegam Committee report

The Malegam committee was set up to look into the matter of disclosures in public issue prospectuses. Some companies present faulty accounts and try to paint a rosy picture in an effort to rig prices of their shares. The committee has recommended that companies should make adjustments in their accounts of the provisions that are mentioned in the notes on accounts. This is an area of corruption in balance sheets and companies hide important information in the auditors' notes, which are not read carefully by the investor. If implemented rigorously, the profits of many companies will turn into losses.

The report further says that if there is a change in accounting policy, the profits must be re-computed to show what they must have been in case no change in policy took place. It stipulates that turnover of companies must be bifurcated to show products manufactured or traded. This will show the true picture of firms since many of them resort to trading to show a higher turnover. The committee has also recommended that companies making

public issues should not be allowed to disclose future profitability. Companies tend to inflate their figures and often project levels of sales and profits which cannot be achieved.

The committee has made further recommendations about offering shares at a premium to the public and to show the money collected from public issues separately. If implemented, the recommendations could bring in greater discipline and transparency in public issues and less instances of price rigging.

The Ultimate Money Game

Despite the risks, the stock market remains the ultimate money game. Putting money in bank deposits has almost become unfashionable and everybody wants a share of the cake. An investor will balance his need for high return with safety. People who pay income tax can invest in schemes offering tax benefits. Investors also like to invest in real estate which offers some of the highest capital appreciation, and gold, which carries an emotional value.

The stock market offers investment opportunities for the small as well as the big investor. Salaried employees may invest their bonus or savings, and see them change in value on a daily basis. But speculators hope to make profits out of daily fluctuations.

For people investing in the stock market, a change

in attitudes and development of judgement is absolutely necessary. Many people hold on to shares in a bull phase expecting the market to rise further but when it begins to fall they sell in a panic at substantially lower prices.

Many other investors rely on working results of companies. They rely on fundamentals since a strong company will not drop substantially. However, in a bear phase, shares of all companies decline. Others rely on market psychology. They use intuition and try to 'feel' the pulse of the market.

Several books are available on the subject which help guide the investor. But there are several things that an investor can keep in mind. The first is to have diversified investments. Shares should be balanced out among financially strong blue chip companies and those expected to rise but have high risks. There should be no emotion here and if a company begins to decline, shares should be sold without thinking twice. Bucking traditional wisdom, it is preferable to buy shares when markets are in a bear phase.

Finally, it may be said that the stock market is also a matter of luck. The most intelligent guesses can go wrong; the most detailed analysis can go haywire. The stock market is a risky place. But it is the risk that pushes many people—risk and returns. There is the famous saying, 'Higher the risk, higher will be the profit.'

ESSAY

Small Scale Sector: Problems & Challenges

THE phenomenal growth of small scale sector is a significant feature of planned economic development in developing countries. Relevance of small sector in our society is more as it constitutes the key link in the process of socio-economic transaction and has become an effective instrument of progress and development, in terms of industrialisation of rural areas, as well as a measure of tackling the problems of unemployment plaguing the country. Small scale industries have numerous advantages like lesser capital per unit of output and employment, low gestation period, dispersal of industrial base, utilisation of local available resources, including raw material and labour. Small sector companies comprise 95 per cent of total industrial units in the country, accounting for 40 per cent of industrial production, over 80 per cent of industrial employment and about 35 per cent of export. It is producing more than 7400 items

Finance is one of the most crucial input required for development and growth of this sector. A unit in this sector is ventured into with limited financial resources. Notwithstanding the contribution of small sector, their proportionate share of total volume of credit available is on lower side. Security-oriented banking has been haunting small entrepreneurs. The bureaucratic set-up in financial system forces them to rely on friends and relatives. Delay in project implementation and cost escalation is the result. Since the finance sector is largely under the government control in our country, a single window finance system on all India basis is much desired. The policy measures of 1991, emphasising shift in focus from subsidised credit, to ensure adequate and

timely flow of credit, for short and long term, is yet to have an impact. Small Industrial Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has recently decided to try out a whole new approach to financing, by teaming up with commercial banks, which, it is expected, will ease finance to this sector.

Technology is also an area of challenge for small sector units. The comparative advantages of this sector are being eroded with the advent of new technology. Liberalisation, which has opened the doors to unrestricted competition, is also exerting pressure. Small units' cannot afford expensive R & D division as in large units. Infact, inadequate in house product, equipment and process research is putting small units in back seat. Foreign technology, which is fit for scale economics, is also not suitable. A reoriented programme of modernisation and technological upgradation, aiming at improving productivity, efficiency and cost effectiveness in small sector, is the need of the hour.

In spite of the vast domestic market, marketing remains a problem area for the small sector. Large units are entering the activities clearly set aside for small sector, forcing the latter to face tough competition. It needs to be checked. Secondly, with limited resources, it is not possible for them to expand market potential on their own. India has been following specific assistance programmes in domestic marketing through four devices: price preferences, purchase reservations, ancillary development and sub-contracting exchange. Small scale units are supplying their products mainly to the institutional buyers whereas organised sector caters

their finished output to the retailers. Much needs to be done to develop more linkage between small and organised sector units, to further tap the domestic retail outlets and export markets which have great potential. Taking benefits of liberalisation this sector can pursue marketing tie ups with multinational companies to sell their own products under multinational brands. Industrial association should have representatives from small sectors with them on their foreign trips to promote exports of products and technology developed by this sector.

The government has to play an active role in providing infrastructure facilities like power, water, roads communication, building etc. Industrial estates programme made a rapid progress in small units, especially in urban areas. This programme, however, has been ineffective in rural areas, where it was expected to act as focal point for growth. The main cause of failure has been lack of additional infrastructure in form of regular supply of raw material, power and water, good and cheap means of transportation. The infrastructural package in rural area has to be complete in itself. Only then there can be stronger linkage between agriculture and industry.

The survival of the small sector much depends on increasing its competitive strength by following scientific methods of management, innovative methods of cost reduction and production of quality products and services. To enable the entrepreneurs to concentrate on productive activities the government should simplify the procedures, reduce bureaucratic controls and provide proper and effective infrastructural support.

SPECIAL FEATURE

Economic Survey 1995-96

The Economic Survey for 1995-96 advocates continuing reforms and fiscal stabilisation measures for sustaining high growth of output and employment. It boasts of a strong economic recovery since 1991-92 but warns that it cannot be sustained unless fiscal and revenue deficits are reduced. The Survey takes upon itself the task of reviewing not just the last year but the last five years of Congress rule. While dramatic change in economic policy has been achieved during this time, critics pointed out that it was a blinkered survey and should have focussed attention more on the unfinished tasks rather than self-congratulation.

The Survey sets out a future agenda of reforms. This includes changes in existing labour legislation, commercialisation of government undertakings and phased liberalisation of existing administered pricing systems in key energy sectors like coal and petroleum. It is, however, silent on insurance sector reforms and the issue of removing licensing restrictions on consumer durable imports.

The reforms agenda includes an increase in public savings to increase national investment. It makes out a strong case for higher revenue buoyancy from tax reforms and a curb on low priority expenditure. The document devotes considerable attention to the measures undertaken by the government to protect the poor from the depreciatory effects of reforms.

There is a new chapter on capital and money markets and environmental concerns are reflected in chapters on infrastructure and social sectors. A gender focus is also visible.

Election Year Survey: The Economic Survey paints a rosy picture of the economy. Real GDP increased by 6.3 per cent in 1994-95 and is expected to increase

by 6.2 per cent in 1995-96. Industry grew by 8.6 per cent in 1994-95 and is expected to grow by 12 per cent in 1995-96. The inflation rate, measured by the wholesale price index was 10.4 per cent in 1994-95. Till January 1996, the increase in this index was 5 per cent and this has been kept down by curtailing money supply. The fiscal deficit is expected to be 5.5 per cent according to estimates.

The Survey relies on questionable Planning Commission estimates showing that the percentage of people below poverty line were just 19 per cent in 1993-94. However, the "new economic policy" did not have any anti-poverty focus till recently and the poverty estimate may be seriously flawed.

GDP slipped only in the first reform year and has subsequently grown at an average rate of 5.7 per cent annually, higher than the eighth plan target of 5.6 per cent. The fiscal deficit remains to be high but is now below 6 per cent. Foreign currency reserves cover five months imports against barely two earlier, exports have increased to around 11 per cent of GDP. But there is a niggling doubt about

the claims: if the economy is strong, why is the rupee depreciating? It is also felt that inflation cannot be controlled for a very long period and may rise after the elections.

Infrastructure: The Economic Survey has said that public sector enterprises need to formulate their long term corporate plans to include strategic alliances with domestic and foreign partners to improve their financial position. It has called 'or deregulating and privatising infrastructure services to ensure competition and for protecting the interest of consumers.

Infrastructure sectors have shown promising performance during the year. Electricity generation was up 9.9 per cent, crude oil production by 11.6 per cent and new telephone connections by 32.5 per cent, for the period April-September, 1995. The six infrastructural industries of electricity, coal, steel, cement, crude oil and petroleum products recorded a growth of 8.9 per cent during the period, up from 7.4 per cent in the corresponding period last year.

There was, however, a shortfall in additional power generating capacity dur-

How the Rupee Comes

Internal Borrowing:	23 P
Non-debt capital Receipts:	5 P
Non-tax revenue:	14 P
External Borrowings:	1 P
Borrowings from RBI (90 days Treasury Bills):	2 P
Corporation Tax:	8 P
Income Tax:	7 P
Customs:	19 P
Excise:	20 P
Other Tax :	1 P

How the Rupee Goes

Interest:	25 P
Defence:	12 P
Subsidies:	6 P
States' share of Taxes & Duties:	15 P
State & UT plan Assistance:	8 P
Central Plan:	13 P
Non-Plan Assistance to States & UTs:	8 P
Other non-plan expenditure:	13 P

Rs crore	BUDGET AT A GLANCE			
	1994-95	1995-96	1995-96	1996-97
	Actuals	Budget Estimates	Revised Estimates	Budget Estimates
Revenue Receipts	91083	100787	110191	127162
Capital Receipts	68695	66364	65213	69862
Total Receipts	159778	167151	175404	197024
Non-Plan Expenditure	113361	123651	134320	151503
Plan Expenditure	47378	48500	48684	50521
Total Expenditure	160739	172151	183004	202024
Revenue Deficit	31029	35541	33331	33495
Budget Deficit	961	5000	7600	5000
Fiscal Deficit	57704	57634	64010	62404
Primary Deficit	13655	5634	12010	2404

ing the year against a target of 1234.3 mw of capacity addition during April-December 1995 the actual addition was barely 510.3 mw.

Financial Sector Reforms The Survey said that financial sector reforms have to be accelerated to make India a competitive force in international markets. A wider and deeper government securities market and a debt market were pre-requisites for a modern system of money management and an essential element in developing a long term debt market.

It pointed out that inflow from Foreign Financial Institutions (FFI) showed strong growth in the third quarter of 1995-96. Some major capital market reform were carried out and SEBI was empowered to regulate all market intermediaries. However more reforms would be necessary to integrate our financial markets with the international market.

Foodgrains Foodgrain production is likely to decline by 0.6 per cent in 1995-96 against last year's record output of 191 million tonnes according to the Economic Survey. The production is lower because of a drop in rice output in Punjab and Haryana on account of late rainfall.

The Survey has noted that Indian agriculture has become globally competitive. Non-basmati rice exports have increased and the document hopes that floriculture and horticulture too will live up to their export potential. Rice production is expected to be 80 million tonnes

against 81.1 million tonnes last year.

Industrial growth Industrial growth was 12 per cent for the period April-September 1995 compared to 8.6 per cent for the same period last year. Policy changes such as removal of barriers, reduction of areas reserved for the public sector, liberalisation of foreign policy and reduction of duties have resulted in a boost to the industrial sector.

The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) registered a growth of 13.6 per cent in September 1995. The Survey said that in the public sector Rs 10,500 crore had been disinvested to financial institutions, mutual funds and the public since July 1991. The fast growing industries of 1994-95 were

sugar, where production reached a record 146 lakh tonnes, automobiles with a turnover of Rs 22,000 crore, electronics, which saw a growth of 17 per cent, and textile export, which grew by 25.3 per cent over the previous year to Rs 31,336 crore. The small scale sector which contributes 40 per cent in the manufacturing sector grew a 10.1 per cent during the year.

Debt The Economic Survey has expressed concern over the government's relatively low capacity to service external debt, which in its view has made it vulnerable to external shocks. It points out that India's exports as a percentage of GDP is about 9 per cent. Debt service payment as a percentage of exports was 25.1 per cent in 1993-94, which remains high by international standards and is higher than other developing countries. The survey points out that external debt at the end of March 1995 was \$99.01 billion showing sharp increase from \$92.07 billion at the end of March 1994. Estimates for end September show that it declined by \$5.20 billion and is about \$93.84 billion. External debt as a percentage of GDP declined to 29.4 per cent at the end of September down from 33 per cent last year.

Domestic debt is also increasing. The Economic Survey has conceded that the government has locked itself into medium and long term borrowings in a high interest rate situation. Loans increased by Rs 19,879 crore compared with Rs 14,59

SECTOR	CENTRAL PLAN OUTLAY (in Rs Crore)	
	95-96 (Revised Estimate)	96-97 (Budget Estimate)
Energy	20268	23896
Transport	11963	15772
Industry & Minerals	10817	11826
Social Services	9980	11521
Communications	9776	9753
Rural Development	6587	6588
Agriculture	2708	2860
Science, Technology & Environment	1534	1655
Irrigation & Flood Control	249	346
Others	712	785
Total	74594	85004

1995-96 ECONOMIC SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

- * Overall economic growth is projected at 6.2%.
- * Fiscal deficit pegged at 5.5% of GDP.
- * Gross domestic savings set a new record at 24.4% of GDP last year.
- * Current account deficit in balance of payments projected at 1.5%.
- * Foreign currency reserves at \$ 16.3 bn on Jan 31, 1996.
- * Industrial growth rate of above 10% expected.
- * Foodgrain production expected to dip at 190 mn tonnes from 191 mn tonnes last year.
- * Annual rate of inflation drops to 5% at end January, 1996.
- * External debt averages \$ 2.2 bn between March 31, 1991 and September 30, 1995.
- * Foreign direct investments register 100% growth per annum between 1992-93 and 1994-95.
- * Private savings register highest level reaching 22.7% of GDP.
- * Real gross capital formation rises to 24.9% of GDP with 1994-95 constant prices.

crore in 1994-95.

Social Sector: In the education sector, despite increased outlays of Rs 1,825 crore in 1995-96, the Survey notes that the school dropout rates though declining, continue to be high. Seeing the poor enrolment of girls, the government has decided to give the DPEP a specific gender focus. But the Survey says that better targetting of funds is needed. There is a need to involve the private sector to increase the level of people's involvement.

Challenges Ahead: The Economic Survey is a document of achievements of the government. The trends of economic growth, inflation, balance of payments, external debt, industrial production and even the tentative figures of poverty reduction, are impressive. But the progress made so far should be a platform for challenges ahead. "The task of economic reform is far from over," it says. It makes a case for more foreign investment and says that fears of foreign companies swamping our production were unfounded. It says that FDI should rapidly increase to levels comparable with China's \$ 30 billion per year.

The other challenges are equally important: reduction of fiscal deficit, disinvestment in the public sector, improvements in infrastructure, agricultural reform, improvement of primary education and universal health care.

VOTE ON ACCOUNT 1996

The interim budget for 1996-97 presented by Dr Manmohan Singh is mainly a holding operation. There are no tax proposals and no changes in the custom and excise structures. The budget is marked by increased outlay for the rural sector, higher food and fertiliser subsidy and an increase in defence allocation. It is basically a populist exercise done with the forthcoming elections in mind.

Deficit: After five years of reform, the fiscal deficit is still high. Dr Singh had told the IMF that this would be reduced to 3.4 per cent, but it is significantly higher at 5.9 per cent, higher than the 5.5 per cent estimated in the original budget. The primary deficit this year is now estimated at Rs 12,010 crore against a budgeted Rs 5,634 crore. The next year's estimates for the primary deficit is Rs 2,404 crore; few will believe the claim that it will indeed be at that level. The budget deficit for the year is Rs 7,600 crore.

Revenue: On the collections side, tax revenue touched Rs 81,088 crore, which represents a rise of Rs 6,714 crore over the budget estimates of Rs 74,374 crore. There has been a significant rise in customs revenue to touch Rs 35,532 crore as per the revised estimates for 1995-96 against a target of Rs 29,500 crore. Central excise duties have fallen short of the target by Rs 1,780 crore, reaching only Rs 41,000 crore. The government expects the

realisations to pick up in the coming year to Rs 46,124 crore.

The total revenue receipts for 1995-96 touched Rs 110,191 crore exceeding the target of Rs 100,787 crore.

Defence: The defence allocation of Rs 27,819 crore marks an increase of Rs 940 crore over the revised expenditure of Rs 26,879 crore for 1995-96. The rise in defence budget was substantial keeping in view that Rs 1,379 crore was added to the original budget estimate of Rs 25,500 crore.

Rural Development: Increased allocation of Rs 8,692 crore for rural development has been proposed. With this, the total expenditure of Rs 33,400 crore during the eighth plan on rural development programmes marks a three-fold increase over the actual expenditure during the seventh plan expenditure of Rs 11,000 crore in this sector. Particular emphasis would be on the girl child and imparting a strong vocational bias to secondary education. There would also be emphasis on modern science and technology to ensure a minimum growth rate of 4 per cent in agriculture. Efforts would be made to increase the productivity of dry land agriculture and ecologically fragile regions.

Social Sector: The total expenditure on social services has been increased by Rs 1,141 crore than the Rs 8,839 crore budgeted in 1995-96.

The Indira Awas Yojna has been increased from Rs 389 crore in 1995-96 to Rs 970.74 crore in 1996-97 so as to provide more than 10 lakh houses. The allocation for National Social Assistance Programme has been almost doubled from Rs 550 crore in 1995-96 to Rs 932 crore in 1996-97. A provision of Rs 448 crore has been made for the Million Wells Scheme so that the small and marginal farmers who are below the poverty line are provided with remunerative assets to meet their water needs. Last years' allocation was Rs 221 crore, showing a doubling of expenditure. A provision of Rs 1,970 crore has been made for the Employment Assurance Scheme.

To ensure that the mid-day scheme does not suffer, Rs 880 crore expenditure on education has been proposed. About 7.2 million children are expected to ben-

efit from this programme.

Subsidies: Subsidy for food was enhanced by 5 per cent to Rs 5,774 crore and for fertiliser by 9.1 per cent to Rs 6,800 crore in 1996-97 against the revised estimates of Rs 5,500 crore and Rs 6,235 crore respectively for 1995-96. Both food and fertiliser subsidies continued to add pressure on fiscal deficit and the revised estimates are higher because of increase in input costs, higher releases and international prices.

Non-Plan Expenditure: The total non-plan expenditure during 1996-97 is estimated to be Rs 151,503 crore compared to Rs 134,320 crore in the revised estimates for the current year. This is particularly worrisome and the government has not

been able to introduce fiscal discipline or a control in its spending. Interest burden of Rs 60,000 crore is a major contributor to non-plan expenditure. Though the government plays this down, the rising interest burden is also a cause of alarm.

An eye on elections: Dr Singh has drawn up a list of good things in his budget, in preparation perhaps for the elections. The GDP growth rate is 6.2 per cent and is expected to rise to 7 or 8 per cent. Employment generation will increase to 10 million jobs annually as compared to 7 million now. Inflation has been brought down from 17 per cent in August 1991 to less than 5 per cent in February 1996. The achievements listed and the bright picture of the future are however, a veiled exhortation to the voters to seek their support on the basis of these figures.

On the flip side, the claims about the economy cannot be taken at face value. The revised estimate of the budget deficit for 1995-96 is actually more than 50 per cent higher than projection. There was unexpected mobilisation of Rs 1,850 crore from telecom license fees and increase in custom duty collections due to an increase in imports and the rupee's devaluation.

Vote-on-Account: This being an election year, Dr Singh has presented a vote-on-account budget. The principle underlying this is that it is improper for a government which is finishing its term to force a budget on its successor. The idea of a vote-on-account is to enable the government to meet expenditure during the first four months of 1996-97. The Constitution does not allow a government whose term of office is to end in the first six months of the financial year to present a budget. Thus increased outlays for the rural sector and populist schemes violate that spirit and may in effect be attempts to influence the voter.

Criticism: In his speech, Dr Singh said that "constitutional propriety" had held him back from announcing new programmes. The idea of not presenting a budget before the general elections also acknowledges the fact that a government may be tempted to announce populist schemes in an attempt to influence the electorate. The budget document gives the impression that Dr Singh has not resisted the temptation to do so.

It was also pointed out that the government had made use of un-verifiable estimates to blow its trumpet. The figures of poverty and of gross domestic investment seemed to be inflated. The deficit was still out of control, in spite of assurances of the finance minister. During the last five years the government consumed borrowed funds, a case of living beyond means.

Interestingly, Dr Singh's vision seems to have changed since 1991 when he took over. At that time, it was to liberalise trade and investment. Today he seems to be more concerned with social sectors and poverty eradication, showing that he has tried to add a "human face" to his calculations. The political compulsions are more than obvious.

KEY INDICATORS

1992-93 1993-94P 1994-95P 1995-96P

Absolute Value

Gross national product
(Rs thousand crore)

At current prices	618.4	708.5	839.5Q	NA
At 1980-81 prices	220.1	230.1	245.6Q	261.1E

Gross domestic product
(Rs thousand crore)

At current prices	630.2	723.1	854.1Q	NA
At 1980-81 prices	224.9	236.1	251.0Q	266.5E

Agricultural

Production	151.5	156.9	164.1	163.9A
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Grains production
(million tonnes)

	179.5	184.3	191.1	190.0A
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Industrial production

	218.9	232.0	252.0	262.6
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Electricity generated

(Bn Kwh)	301.1	323.5	351.0	281.5
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Wholesale price index

	233.1	258.3	285.2	298.0
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Consumer price

	243	267	293	317
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index for industrial

workers

Money supply (M3)	366.8	434.4	530.8	570.2
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(Rs thousand crore)

Imports at current prices

(Rs crore)	63375	73101	89971	86064
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(US \$ million)

	21882	23306	28654	26292
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Exports at current prices

Foreign currency assets				
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(Rs crore)	20140	47287	66006	59540
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(US \$ million)	6434	15068	20809	16317
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Exchange rate

(Rs/US \$)	28.96	31.37	31.40	33.03
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Note: Gross national product and Gross domestic product figures are at factor cost.

A-anticipated; P-Provisional; Q-Quick estimates; E-Advance estimates; NA:Not available

SPECIAL FEATURE

Public Interest Litigation

The hawala scandal which was exposed by a Public Interest Litigation has brought the focus to an instrument that makes justice available to all including the poorest people in our society. A postcard sent from a person in bonded labour or from illegal confinement or a letter chamber can activate the courts. In itself it offers help to the weaker sections of society who have no other means for remedy.

It seems there is a feeling that the instrument has been trivialised and has degenerated into a tool for busybodies. PIL cases have been filed for the most trivial causes such as disposal of garbage in Delhi. This is defended on the other hand by pointing out that a citizen has no other option when the government does not do the functions it is supposed to do. PIL thus is the last resort of citizens of the country.

The future look at the public interest litigation and the arguments on both sides of the question. It also examines the charges that increased PIL cases will give rise to unbridled judicial activism while dealing with the notable cases heard in recent time.

PUBLIC Interest Litigation (PIL) has been brought in the spotlight by the hawala scandal which would not have been exposed but for such a litigation. Indeed such litigation has been increasing in importance ever since the Supreme Court came up with PIL after the Emergency as a tool meant to ensure justice for the underprivileged and the marginalised. Path breaking judgements on issues such as abuse of human rights and the environment have been delivered.

PIL is a judicial remedy and dispenses with the principle of *locus standi* in matters of public interest. Any citizen, who may not be directly aggrieved, can approach the court for the larger interest of society. In 1953 Swami Agnivesh of the

Bandhua Mukti Morcha filed such a petition on behalf of bonded labourers in the stone quarries of Faridabad. The Multiple Action Research Group was able to help four tribal teenagers who had remained undertrials for 8 years in a Bihar jail. Another group, Common Cause, could increase pension of people who had retired before April 1, 1979 though a government order did so only for people who had retired before that date.

PIL has indeed benefited thousands of poor people but what is important in this litigation is that it should protect the public interest. The Court has explained that public interest does not mean that which is interesting or gratifying curiosity or a love of information or amusement but that in which a class or community have a pecuniary interest or some interest by which their legal rights or liabilities are affected.

However, the judiciary cannot interfere with routine administration. A PIL in the Andhra High Court wanted the license to meat processing unit should be withdrawn since it would deplete the cattle population. The petition was rejected. The court observed that fundamental rights could be upheld, not sentimental objections. It also cautioned that PIL was a weapon that should be handled with great care and circumspection.

Misuse of PIL

WHILE PIL is a tool to help impoverished classes, there are fears that it is being misused by people for filing cases for personal benefit. In 1991 a PIL was filed to direct a colliery in Bihar to stop discharging slurry into the Bokaro river. It was discovered that the petitioner was a businessman who had been purchasing

slurry from the colliery. When this was discontinued, a PIL was filed for purely personal reasons.

PIL is also misused by activists. There has for instance, been a prayer to take back the territory lost to Pakistan, remove the judge who negotiated the release of Mufti Mohammed Sayeed's daughter, and also remove the Prime Minister and Home Minister. At other times PILs have been filed by activists for personal benefits. Certain environmentalists for instance have been talking of community rights in national parks; it is pointed out that they do so in the hope of getting benefits in the parks. The rights of the poor people are used as a mask in such campaigns. Finally PIL is filed merely for frivolous reasons.

Indeed PIL does not help the poor today as much as it helps the middle class and the activists. It is used more to remedy the political governance and fight corruption. Some people file PILs for lack of anything to do, hoping to gain a little publicity out of the effort.

Delhi University law professor Parmanand Singh conducted a survey in 1993 and found that PIL had been hijacked from the poor. He found that there was not a single notable PIL concerning the poor or the oppressed. According to him, PIL is initiated and controlled by elites and is governed by their own priorities and choices.

Justice S.R. Pandhian came down on the abuse of PIL which was meant to be for the underprivileged. He said that 'busybodies, meddlesome interlopers, wayfarers and officious intervenors' were misusing the facility and had no public interest except personal profit or gain. He said that such people wear the

mask of public interest and file vexatious and frivolous petitions.

Recent PIL cases

It was Justice P.N. Bhagwati, who retired in 1986, who used to convert postcards and letters into PILs. "This was to vindicate the rights of weaker sections because I found that justice was totally denied to them by our legal system", he says. Indeed, social interest litigations gained a new high when he became the Chief Justice.

In 1995, Chandraswami was stopped from going abroad on a PIL filed by a lawyer. Corruption in the allotment of government houses was sought to be exposed by another PIL case. As a result of this, 72 VIPs were served eviction notices. Shiela Kaul, the Minister for Urban Development, was dropped from the ministry as a result of a controversy arising out of the housing scam.

A PIL was filed regarding the report of the Vohra committee, which had talked of a politician-criminal nexus in the country. The government had tabled a harmless report full of generalities and it was alleged that certain annexures had been left out. The government says that no portion of the report was held back. The court is considering whether the government should be asked to file the reports received by the Vohra committee, from investigating agencies.

In another PIL filed by consumer rights activist H.D. Shourie, the court has asked political parties to file their income tax returns. Political parties are not liable to pay much income tax, but few maintain audited accounts as required by the law. This might just bring in accountability in the area of political fund gathering. The Telecom tender case was also brought into focus by petitions charging that the privatisation was loaded in favour of private licensees.

Though PIL has been around since 1977, it is now that the court is exerting pressure on government bodies to do their work. In the past, the court has been deal-

ing only with custodial deaths and other forms of human rights violations. Environmental decisions were handed down, closing industries and mines. It was only natural that the court would take up corruption cases in its purview too, specially when the public interest was blatantly sacrificed when leaders took bribes.

The recent cases show that the trend of PIL has changed to a great extent from what it was intended to be. This has led to some criticism from several quarters.

Criticism of PIL

ONE controversial judgement relates to directions by the court to the Delhi municipality to solve the city's garbage collection problems. It suggested that the government could advertise and entrust the task to a private agency. The judgement bordered on interfering with executive functions and critics mentioned that the court was taking upon itself the task of the government. But if the executive does not do its job, does not the citizen have the right to approach the court? Former Supreme Court Justice Krishna Iyer says, "Had the executive been more responsive and responsible, the court would have hesitated to tread territory which does not normally belong to it." In other words, the court is intervening only because the executive has become ineffective.

Another criticism is that directions of the court are often disregarded. In the case in which Swami Agnivesh freed several bonded labourers, the court had issued 21 directives against the stone crushers. Seven years later, a committee appointed by the court found that the conditions were much the same. The directives had simply not been implemented.

Cases such as this have brought the criticism that respect for courts too could be eroded. The whole issue of judicial activism is questioned. Critics say that courts have no business to direct the government to implement a principle.

PIL has indeed been trivialised by publicity gimmicks for a variety of things.

Autobiographies are sought to be banned, rations are sought to be supplied to terrorists holed up in Hazratbal and social activists have filed for environmental concerns. In many cases, selfish motives are evident. This can not serve public interest by any stretch of imagination.

Whatever the criticisms, it cannot be denied that but for the persistence of the court, the large scale bribery scandal in Indian politics would not have been exposed. While extreme forms of judicial activism may attract some criticism, in certain areas the activity of the court can only be welcome. This has become imperative since the institutions that are supposed to protect democracy, the executive and the press, do not take up the issues.

Future of PIL

AS long as the government does its functions, citizens must have a right to approach the courts. In some cases, PIL has indeed helped the poor. But if PIL increases and goes into other areas, there is danger that the works of the courts may suffer. In his speech at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Chief Justice A.M. Ahmadi said that the PIL movement was one of the factors responsible for increasing the burden of the Court. Thousands of cases are pending before the courts all over India. It is feared that justice in PIL cases may result in further delay of routine justice.

Should PIL be limited to the poor? Experts do not agree that it should be limited. When government is guilty of dereliction of duty and when it flouts its own procedures, the people of India deserve the right to seek remedial action. There is thus no doubt that the court will have to address itself to issues of corruption. PIL should definitely not be limited. A punishment should be fixed for the frivolous petitions or those which have an element of personal benefit. With India going global, it is expected that PIL will only increase in importance in the coming years.

ARTICLE

The Election-year Economics

Since the Rao government took the reins of the nation in 1991, the process of economic reforms was initiated in the country. Nehruvian philosophy of mixed and socialistic economy was considered to be outdated. The public sector, which was hitherto considered to be a cornerstone in the public policy, was relegated to an insignificant position. Age old policy of controls and licencing was done away with and was replaced by the new policy of liberalisation, deccontrols and delicencing. Restrictions on the foreign capital were removed and the government has pursued the policy of inviting more and more foreign capital. Everyone seems to be concerned with the foreign exchange reserves, fiscal deficit, growth of exports, government expenditure, disinvestment of public sector equity and control of inflation. However, during the first four years of reforms, everyone appeared to have forgotten about half of our population represented by the millions of people living below poverty line

WITH the elections drawing nearer the policy suddenly changed. Welfare of the poor and down-trodden became the most important targets of economic policy. The hitherto forgotten, overnight became the frontrunners in getting the government attention. Rural and urban poverty alleviation programmes and welfare schemes once again took priority over developmental programmes. The government started pumping in more and more funds in the rural development programmes. The State governments were asked to draw up projects to remove the urban poverty by introducing a scheme of loan upto rupees one lakh to the urban poor. This scheme is in addition to several other such existing schemes for the urban poor. On the last independence day, five populist schemes, including mid-day-meals, enhanced pension to the old and insurance scheme for

the rural poor, were introduced. These were in addition to several other schemes like *Matula Sauridlu Yojana* aimed at appeasing the poor women. Annual budget for the year 1995-96 was described as an effort to give a human face to the policy of reforms, but more than this, it aimed at earning the goodwill of the poorer sections of the society.

While the Union government was forging ahead with its policy of uplifting the poor during the past about one year, the State governments, where elections were expected to be held alongwith the Parliament elections, were not far behind. The governments of Punjab and Haryana untolded several packages for its employees. New schemes were also introduced in these States. With the possibilities of elections brightening up for Jammu and Kashmir, several concessions for its employees were announced and possibility of an economic package before election cannot be ruled out.

All this is not happening for the first time. Whenever elections draw closer in any State or at the Centre, the poor and the backward suddenly become important, only to be forgotten after elections. While some governments used 'Mandal' card to neutralise its political opponents, several others used the policy of exempting the defaulters from repaying the agricultural loans. Many others used the tactic of pleasing the electorate by promising subsidised rations. Without considering the larger interest of the nation, such political gimmicks have not only harmed the parties themselves, but have also raised false hopes among the poor, which were belied at a later stage.

Long-Term Policy

THE election year economics has become a specialised branch of public

policy which is perfected by the political parties. Being evolutionary in nature, new additions and inventions keep on taking place. Short-term measures to control inflation have been introduced and suddenly it is observed that the inflation rate fell to 5 per cent, which is lowest in almost six years. Despite fall in the value of rupee vis-a-vis US dollar, the administered prices of petroleum products are not enhanced, only to be jacked up considerably after the elections. Such short-term measures do no good either to the economy or to the poorer sections, but in turn, harm their long-term interests by raising false hopes.

What is needed is a consistent long-term policy with respect to poverty alleviation and upliftment of the backward classes and the down-trodden. A sudden dose of funds at the time of elections does not result in sustained development and upliftment. These election-time promises and schemes result only in alluring the voters but no discernible impact is made on the poverty eradication or economic development. Most of the election-time schemes and programmes are populist in nature which are either abandoned or replaced by some new or modified schemes after the elections.

Electioneering has also become highly technical and complex phenomenon, which involves large doses of funds. Hence, while the populist schemes are introduced on the one hand, election year is invariably rocked by scams and scandals involving huge funds, apparently in an attempt to raise funds for elections. Surprisingly, most of the political parties still feel that the number of seats won by them is directly proportional to the funds spent by them during the elections. But, empirically this notion is not supported by actual data. However, the rat-race for raising and spending huge sums of money con-

tinues. Audio-visual devices, cable networks, professional campaign planning and use of computers are some of the activities which need stiff doses of funds for electioneering.

This new branch of economics, however, provides some solace to the common man. In addition to announcement of several new schemes, special efforts are made by the government to keep the prices as low as possible. While the price level remains generally low, there is no routine hike in the administered prices of petrol, diesel, coal, fertilizer etc providing temporary relief to the common man. This, however, is undone usually on the very next year of the elections when steep hike is experienced in the prices of most of the commodities. Election year bonanza also aims at mobilising the support of government employees whose long-standing demands are met. Even the timing of reports of pay-Commissions is so synchronised as to derive optimum political mileage.

It has been experienced during the past few decades, particularly after seventies, that elections and five-year plans also have certain inter-relationship. The planning process gets directly affected by the advent of elections, particularly the general elections. At times when a five-year plan is finalised by the outgoing government, it is completely altered or overhauled by the new government, irrespective of the delay caused to its implementation and execution. Even the outgoing government makes certain provisions in the plan document, to be specifically used for its advantage among the electorate. At times, some new terms such as annual plans or rolling plans are coined by the new governments. In the present day context, although there is hardly any difference in the political ideology and economic policies of the political parties in India, yet no party misses out on strongly criticising the policies of the previous government and introducing certain changes in economic policy, soon after coming to power. The aim may be, to some extent, to mould the economic policy as per its ideology,

but more than this, it aims at gaining political advantage.

The policy of reforms being pursued by the government was criticised on the ground that it has nothing for the poor man. The policy was strongly pursued upto end of 1994 when suddenly it almost came to a stand still. The annual budget for 1995-96 did not contain anything to pursue the policy of economic reforms, except renewed emphasis on the infrastructure sector. Since then, the Finance Minister has hardly introduced any reforms worth its name. After all, economic reforms is a long-term process and the gains to the poorer sections, if any, would accrue only in the long-run. But after the date for elections came nearer, the trend suddenly reversed. The concern for the poor, the backward and the downtrodden came in vogue once again. Rather than economic development and reforms, everyone started talking about the welfare of the poorer and weaker sections.

Need for Change

FOR decades now, the poor, illiterates and the weaker sections have fallen to the unrealistic promises and allurements provided during the election year. No wonder trend in most of the recent elections has been towards change as immediately after the election, the poor voter feels cheated and frustrated and starts looking for greener pastures elsewhere, only to be frustrated again. Though the Election Commission has tried to contain this tendency to a large extent, but the Election Commission comes into picture only after the elections are declared. Moreover, the Commission has not so far used its discretion in exercising a proper check over the promises made by political parties in their manifestos or election speeches. This politico-economic blackmail of the voter must be brought to an end, for which Election Commission has to be made more assertive.

Another suggestion is that punitive provisions be added in the Representation

of the People Act against the political parties making unrealistic and false election promises. Or else, the people should have the right to recall such representatives who made false promises before and during the elections. Actual and real change, however, would come only when the curse of illiteracy is eradicated from the country. Spread of education would broaden the mental faculties and perceptions of the masses, enabling every one to see through the false promises of the politicians. No wonder, the "far-sighted" political parties have hardly made any contribution to make the National Literacy Mission a success. With the literacy percentage rising appreciably, particularly among the poor, women and the Scheduled caste, the time is not far when it would be difficult to befool the voters easily.

It is a pity that even after about five decades of independence, such exploitation of the poor and the weaker sections continues unabated. It is time for the right thinking political parties to set a healthy code of conduct for themselves and project only their true achievements and firmly proposed policy measures. India, which claims to be the largest democracy, would then have the honour of being known as the largest democracy with clean and principled politics, resulting in healthier election contests. With its new economic policies, India strives at becoming an "Asian Tiger" and enjoys the status of being a regional power to reckon with, at least in South Asia. Such an improvement in political and election ethics and morals would certainly improve the quality of public representatives on the one hand and reputation of the nation in the international fora, on the other. The initiative rests with the political parties themselves and it is high time that they rise above petty politics to contribute substantially to the process of nation building, by erasing the old and shameful chapter of election-year economics and come out with an entirely new, healthy and positive one, on which they would be proud themselves.

THIS MONTH YESTERDAY

April: Before and After Independence

Before Independence

A lot many significant events happened in India's pre-independent history. For instance, Lord Irwin became Viceroy of India (April 1, 1926), Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt were arrested after throwing bombs in the Assembly (April 8, 1929), Mahatma Gandhi broke the 'Salt Satyagrah' (April 6, 1930).

However, herein we shall focus on (i) the Crisis that engulfed the Congress in 1939 and, (ii) Jallianwala Bagh Massacre.

1939 Congress Crisis

Differences between Subhash Chandra Bose and Mahatma Gandhi reached climax in 1939. It was in April, that during his long series of discussions with Pandit Nehru on 'crisis in Congress' that INC President Bose categorically stated—'unity could be preserved superficially in Congress only by surrendering to the Gandhi wing'. Even Tagore's telegram (April 18, 1939) to Mahatma Gandhi 'an appeal to meet Subhash Chandra Bose and save situation from disaster' could not resolve the situation.

Nevertheless on April 29, 1939 at Wellington Square, Calcutta, Subhash Chandra Bose announced his resignation and on April 30, 1939 Dr Rajendra Prasad was elected President of the Congress.

Jallianwala Bagh Massacre

The Rowlatt Act authorising the Government to imprison any person without trial led to a remarkable political awakening in the country. Infuriated by an unending series of *hartals*, demonstrations and processions the Government decided to come down heavily on the agitators and worst of its repression was witnessed in Amritsar. To deter the people of Amritsar, on April 12, 1919 troops were called out in Amritsar and Government banned all public meetings. Undeterred, a large crowd gath-

ered at Jallianwala Bagh on April 13, 1919 (the Baisakhi day) to peacefully protest against the arrest of two popular leaders, Dr Saaifuddin Kitchlew and Dr Satyapal. Nonetheless, and the Lt Governor Michael O'Dwyer ordered firing at the public meeting. (Subsequently before the Hunter Commission, Dyer mentioned '1516 casualties in 1650 rounds'.)

After Independence

In this section, besides taking a peep into a few events pertaining India's achievements in 'Space' and 'Broadcasting' we shall also have a glance on 'Cricket in yesterday'.

Space

After independence India registered remarkable achievements in the 'Space' in the month of April. For instance on April 19, 1975 'Aryabhata', first Indian Satellite was launched from a Soviet cosmodrome. Further, besides the launching of INSAT-1A (India's first multipurpose Satellite procured from USA by US Delta rocket on April 10, 1982), Rohini (April 17, 1983) or ISRO's indigenously developed Cryogenic engine (April 16, 1993), Indian Space mission got an unprecedented boost on April 3, 1984 when India became the 14th country in the world to send a man (Sq Ldr Rakesh Sharma) in the space. Incidentally it was also in the month of April (12, 1961) that Major Yuri Gagarin became the first man to travel in space.

Indian Broadcasting

April has been quite an eventful month in the Indian Broadcasting history. In April Radio stations were opened in Ahmedabad (1949), Jaipur (1955) and Chandigarh (Auxiliary 1957). Apart from it, AIR took over stations at Trivandrum, Mysore, Hyderabad and Aurangabad (1950) and that of Srinagar

(1954) in April. Further, it was also in April that the Chanda Committee, which was set-up by Mrs Indira Gandhi during her brief term as Minister for Information & Broadcasting, presented its final report in April (1967). Of the five interim reports which it submitted during 1966-67, one on 'Report on Radio and Television' recommended Commercial broadcasting on a limited scale and the restructuring of Radio and Television as two separate Public Service Corporations. Subsequently on April 1, 1976 Prime Minister Indira Gandhi inaugurated a new set up for the Indian broadcasting by separating 'Doordarshan' from the 'Akashvani'. Besides, it was in April that the 'Licence fee on Radio and Television sets was abolished' (1985). Further in April while on Radio experimental FM was introduced in Calcutta (April 7, 1980), INSAT-2A ushered in an era of Metro Channels in India (April 1, 1993).

Cricket

For Kapil Dev, April registered two diagonally variant events. On the one hand on April 7, 1989 Kapil Dev became the first Indian and second in the world to score 4000 runs and to take 300 wickets, on the other hand it was in April (5, 1994) that India dropped Kapil Dev, for the first time in 15 years, from an overseas trip. Notably it was during the same period that Sri Lanka dropped Aravinda De Silva from their squad and Javed Miandad, former Captain and an ace batsman of Pakistan, tearfully announced his retirement after being repeatedly dropped from the squad. At Sharjah, on April 13, 1994, in the world's 905th one-dayer, India defeated UAE, the 13th country to play 1-day. Last but not the least, it was in April (1984) that India defeated Pakistan to lift the first Asia Cup Cricket Tournament at Sharjah.

DEBATE; DISCUSSION

Should there be Women in the Police?

Police officers participating in a course organised by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences in Mumbai recently suggested that one-third of the police force should be women. They said that this was necessary to make social legislation more effective and to enable the police to be more pro-active.

Such a suggestion has been made earlier too. It is suggested that induction of women in the police force will make it more humane. But will they be as effective in controlling riots and demonstrations?

In this issue, we debate the suggestion made by the police officers

Mr A The topic before us is an interesting one and suggestions have been made often that women should be included in the police force to play a larger role. In the recent seminar, the officers of the Indian Police Service (IPS) mentioned that 75 per cent of women constables are required to deal with problem areas especially in social legislation cases like prostitution, child marriage and dowry, as men could not be used in these areas freely. But at present the women constitute a very small percentage of the police force. Among officers, women constitute just one per cent of the force. I agree with the suggestion made and would say that women should be inducted in the police force. Our police force has the image of being brutal and there are several crimes committed against women and weaker sections of the society. With more women in the police, hopefully this should change.

Mr B This sounds very nice but I beg to differ. Merely inducting women will not make the police force more

humane. Policewomen are also open to the influences that men are, such as corruption and exploitation. There is a danger that they will become like the men. So we should not place too much hope that inducting women will improve things in the police. Even in areas of social legislation, unless the system is changed, what can the women do? For example, if cases are not registered at police stations because too many unsolved cases gives a bad impression, what good will the induction of women do? They too will not like to register FIRs just like the men. So unless the system is reformed, doing superficial things are not going to help.

Mr C I agree that the system needs a change but should we keep waiting till the system is changed? Should we not take some action within the system so that some improvement can be achieved? It cannot be denied that in certain areas women can be very helpful. The police officers are right when they say that in areas of prostitution, child marriage, dowry and other social legislation, women may be more sensitive. In such areas, men do have limitations and cannot be deployed freely. Moreover, people may be more forthcoming in their complaints if a woman is in charge. There are also other areas where women are better suited. They excel in areas of information collection, public relations and as counsellors. We have the example of Kiran Bedi, who could do much work in spite of being a woman. You cannot say that she was in any way inferior to male officers. Her reforms at Tihar jail showed that women are more humane. If the police

force is to be made humane and geared towards the needs of the common man, women must be inducted into the force.

Mr D Yes, there are already too many complaints that the police force is brutal. There is urgent need to make it humane. In social legislation, India's record has been very poor. Child marriage still exists and in crimes against women, the victims are not forthcoming when the police officers are men. A woman officer will help understand the situation better and also offer solace to the victim. Cases of rape too are hushed up because women are ashamed to narrate the story to men. Women police officers will at least not cause this shame in the victim. In areas of prostitution too, women can contribute a great deal. Men deal with the situation in a callous manner and very often take *haftas* from those who run prostitution dens. It is hoped that women officers will not do so and have more empathy for the victims who are forced to lead such lives.

Mr E But there are dangers too. There are certain functions of the police that requires use of force, such as controlling riots and demonstrations. If there are too many women, this function may suffer because physically they are not as strong as men. There may also be other areas such as fighting drug mafia and organised crime which are hazardous, where women cannot be deployed. Police duty may be required at odd hours. Thus, I would say that women should be deployed only in selected areas. We should not take a majority of them just for the sake of

taking women.

Mr A I disagree with that. In many countries, women are employed in police departments. They do all jobs required of them. We have seen many movies where they participate in the force doing all the things that a man would. They even take up hazardous duty and have shown themselves to be as good as any man. You may have a point regarding street demonstrations and riots, but these days even such functions can be done by women because technology helps them do so. Controlling crowds can be achieved by using water cannons, for instance. It is not necessary to always use force like a lathi charge. A policewoman can use such things with equal ease. But let me tell you that the policewomen are not soft and delicate. When it comes to using force, they may be equally effective as men. I would say that it is a myth that women can be used only for soft functions. Given a chance, a woman will be as tough as anyone else. On the other hand, women will make the force more gentle and humane as there are a lot of complaints that it is not so.

Mr B I disagree with this. Men and women have their own roles to play. Women are delicate and weak by nature. They should take up jobs as teaching and banking that does not require the use of force. Why use them in the police? Maybe by having more women the image of the department will become better but its performance will certainly go down. Police duty requires working at odd hours and sometimes at lonely places. Don't you think that the women will not be able to do this duty and in fact there may be danger in deploying them at such places? In limited roles of public relations or administrative positions a woman may be all right but not in frontline operations. I also do not agree with what is done in other countries. Conditions are much different in India. In Western countries there is equality in all fields and women have aspired to

reach the levels of work done by men. In India there is no equality and women are still dominated by men. Putting them in jobs requiring physical strength would just not be right.

Mr A Your attitude smacks of chauvinism. If we follow your line of argument, women will never be able to achieve equality in our country. We should give them opportunity to develop. If training is provided, a woman will surely come up to standards even in areas requiring physical strength. There have been a number of cases in our own country. Secondly, I don't think you are right when you say that conditions in India are different from those of other countries. Even in other countries there was a feeling that women should not be given jobs requiring physical strength, but that myth has been shattered. Over the years, women have been inducted into the police, army and air force of Western countries and limitations of physical strength have not hampered them. It is time that in our country too we gave them opportunities to develop themselves and contribute to the services. If we start thinking that they cannot do some jobs, women in our country will never get a chance to prove themselves. Fortunately where women have been employed in the police, there have not been any complaints regarding their abilities.

Mr C I agree with this. So let me say that what we are saying is not complete replacement of men in the police force. Women have to complement men. There can be no denying that in certain areas women can be employed for better results. Women constables are more committed to their work as they are not addicted to alcohol and have good stamina. There is less chance that they will combine with vested interests to continue with the *status quo*. Every woman of course will not have the reformatory zeal but their mere presence will make a lot of difference to social legislation. We are also

not deriding men but the fact is that men are more open to manipulation. Men can be invited to liquor parties by the rich landlords who wish to have a child marriage in their family. Women will probably not be open to such influences. In India, there are a number of things that need to be changed. These things cannot be changed by merely enacting laws. Only if we set up a supportive framework can these laws work. By supportive framework I mean a method by which people do not feel intimidated by the thought of going to a police station. This can be achieved if more women are available in police stations.

Mr D We should not underestimate women. Even in India they are coming forward. In most cases they have succeeded. In police too, though the idea may seem new at first, it is nothing extraordinary. Women can supplement men in a very good way. While I have no doubt that they can be used in all areas of activity, they can be used effectively in some areas particularly as have been mentioned. We should get over our outdated ideas and let women come forward in the police force. The example of Kiran Bedi was mentioned; I have no doubt that if given the chance, there can be many more women like her. So we should develop facilities where they can be trained. We are not saying that women should be employed for the sake of equality only but because the police need to perform a larger role in society. Social reform is also part of police functions since mere legislation cannot achieve the desired results. In some areas the West certainly has a lead and one of those areas is employing women in the armed forces. Let us not get stuck in traditional thinking. Women are very much required, but there is a point in using physical force at times. Thus the suggestion of the police officers that one-third of the force can consist of women is a practical one and government policy can be changed to achieve that end.

PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT

Be Organised and Efficient

Man is a 'learning' creature. Every experience leaves some effect on him. When he stops learning, he ceases to be and he starts declining. Without the feeling of achievement and thrill which comes from progress and the assimilation of new experiences, living becomes mere vegetable existence.

This learning potential is the foundation of efficiency. And the development of this learning potential is the key to self-improvement and a rich life.

Intelligent dissatisfaction is the basis of progress. The person who is smugly satisfied with himself and the world in which he lives, makes no progress and contributes little to collective community life.

We are the product of environmental influences but this does not mean that we be the slave of environment, for we can choose and select environmental influences to shape our life.

We can choose what we read, what we listen to, the persons with whom we associate, the kind of work we do, how we use our leisure time. In fact, our environment is largely what we make it.

Wisdom

ONE aspect of personal efficiency is the utilisation of the accumulated wisdom of the ages. This requires study of the recorded thoughts of sages and savants. This is thrilling, enriching and satisfying. It fosters growth.

Communication by spoken and written language plays a key role in life. Efficiency in living depends on the adequacy of such communication. Thinking is also dependent on language. Efficiency in thought, perception, expression, and communication is helped by a command of vocabulary and language forms.

Another aid to personal efficiency is time spent in meditation and thought. The human mind is a truly wonderful instrument. But we do not spend enough time to think things through. We read, listen, and are exposed to a glut of information, but rarely is the information digested.

The management of emotions is another essential phase of personal efficiency. Emotions are a part of a human nature, and the management of emotions does not mean an attempt to eliminate emotions.

One can be the slave of his emotions or be the master. It depends. One can learn to use temper or one can harness the energy generated from it and direct it into a positive channel. Also, fear can lead to paralysis of action or to intelligent attempts to overcome the threat or danger.

Undesirable behaviour stems from failure to face and understand the emotions. When fears, worries, and irritations are examined, they can usually be fitted into a pattern of behaviour and dealt with adequately. We fail to face fears andangers, they become disruptive and destructive.

Look for an example of efficient living. This person is symbol of harnessed energy, emotional poise, quiet self-confidence, and efficient activity.

Such persons do not just happen by chance. They are the product of intelligent use of the same kind of potentialities we possess. They have learnt the efficiency ways

Programme

SHOULD you feel dissatisfied with your present level of efficiency, implement the programme that follows and see the results.

The lives of most of us follow a particular predictable pattern. Spend time

carefully allocating your various commitments to time-slots in say one day or a week.

One evening can be set aside for study or self-improvement activities, another for recreation, and so on. Long stretches of spare time and spells of vacations should be meticulously planned. There should not be frittered away in frivolities.

Having drawn up the plan, keep to it until habit is formed and a regular pattern emerges. The approach should be sustained, not fitful.

Adherence to such a plan soon brings order out of chaos. A sense of mastery follows. You begin to feel that you are the master of your life, not drifting aimlessly like a waif.

The adage, "A place for everything and everything in its place", needs to be put in practice. Developing the habit of orderliness is to take an important step towards efficiency. An organised person is an orderly person.

Make a start by tidying drawers and cupboards. If you have a desk, clear the surface completely. Introduce a few trays or folders aptly marked. Prompt action is one secret of efficiency.

Keep safe dead-lines for every assignment you have. This ensures that you meet your commitments. A sense of commitment comes from taking a deep interest in what you are doing.

Time

YOU are thinking: "I do not have enough time. If I had time I would be more methodological, better organised. This is a common lament but has no logical force to sustain it as you must realise that you have as much time as anyone else. You have no less than twenty-four hours a day.

Bring more method, discipline and organisation into your life and you *will* have more time. Time is wasted because of unsystematic, inefficient ways.

The basic principle followed in money matters: take care of the pences and pounds will take care of themselves, can be profitably practised in matters of time. Take care of the seconds and the hours will take care of themselves.

Carefully examine a day or a week for wasted time. Do you really need as much time rolling in bed? Do you spend too much time watching television, doing nothing? Many are 'prodigal' with time in the matter of daily chores. Besides reading a newspaper, they listen to radio or television news in the morning and several times each evening. Perhaps you spend too much time on your hobby or in watching or playing some sport.

Increase your reading speed. Learn to take in phrases at a glance and push on purposefully all the time. You can get the message from chapter summaries if these are available in what you read.

Make prompt decisions. Learning to decide promptly boosts the morale, steps up self-confidence and saves time.

Prompt decisions must be followed by prompt action. With due regard to your plan, make "Do-it-now" your motto. You begin to feel that you really are efficient and disciplined.

Beware of postponing tasks. Tackle them while you are fresh. Procrastination robs you of precious time. More, it throws you at the mercy of your moods which are tyrants if you allow them to become your master. A man at the mercy of moods is half a man.

When less attractive tasks have been tackled, the casier, more attractive ones present little or no difficulty.

Divide and Rule

ANCIENT emperors learned to dominate vast territories by applying the principle of—divide and rule. It is an effective way. In other words: Cut a big task into small parts. A writer does not write two thousand words in one flourish. He goes sentence by sentence, para by para.

Do you aspire for qualifications which would improve your life and raise chances of a better career? Then break your bundle of sticks by snapping them one at a time. Do not worry about how you are going to pass the final examination. Go all out for the preliminary one—at the present. Begin to learn a little each day.

Do you want to hold audiences spell-bound? First talk to small groups in the helpful atmosphere of a family or friends. After gaining practice and confidence, launch on big ones.

When a sudden turn of events threatens to overwhelm you with various demands upon your time, it is an excellent ploy to spend a few minutes drawing up a list of your priorities. This prevents confusion and conflict. You are aiming to become a practical person, not a juggler.

This will ensure that nothing gets neglected. Ticking them off as you do them will also give you a sense of achievement and that wonderful uplifting feeling of success.

The mere fact that you have troubled to draw up such a list helps to convince you that you are an efficient person.

Another important technique you need to learn now is delegation to others. Many find it difficult to do this and try to do everything themselves, which creates avoidable hurdles.

You have to find suitable people to take over various duties. Then you must let them get on with whatever assignment you have given them. Do not interfere. Let them work at their own rhythm. Make sure they are clear as to what is expected of them by discreet encouragement, remind them of the task at their hand. They will come up to your expectation.

A well-organised person is punctual. Apart from it being a matter of courtesy to others, he knows that were he constantly to be arriving flurried and late, it would undermine his reputation.

Instead of finding shelter in "better late than never, make it better never than late."

The inefficient person is often just as busy, just as hard working, just as eager to be successful. Yet he rarely accomplishes

his aims fully or on time.

Be specific

KNOWING what you want to achieve is not nearly so easy as people sometimes think. Often inefficiency is caused by having aims that are too general or vague.

Most accomplished people are the ones most keen to practise regularly to improve their skills still further. The inefficiency of the mediocre person is marked by a contentment with his present level of attainment.

At the age of forty-five, when already an established and world famous virtuoso pianist, Arturo Rubinstein, completely revised his keyboard technique, explaining modestly that he thought he now had a chance of becoming reasonably competent.

Make your decisions quickly as soon as you have all the relevant facts. When you need more information, set out at once to get it. When you have it all, decide without delay. Then stick to your decision and put it into effect immediately.

You cannot alter yesterday's activities you cannot yet perform tomorrow's. All that is open to you is to perform today's jobs as well as you can. What you do today determines your future, decides what your achievement will finally be.

The efficient person is rarely harassed. That is because he has learned the art of separating the essential from the trivial.

Do not rush, but do not stop except for properly scheduled rests. Keep up a steady pace all day. Rest and relax frequently, but always restart the minute the rest time ends.

Shrug off defeats and errors. They happen to everyone. Build on your successes. Be prepared to start again from the beginning when things go wrong, as they will at times.

The efficient person is not necessarily someone who is always right, or up-to-date, or using the latest methods. What makes him efficient is his continual striving to do better, to correct his errors, to overcome his deficiencies.

Mineral Sources of India

Minerals have been categorised into three classes: fuel, metallic and non-metallic. Fuel minerals like coal, oil and natural gas have been given prime importance as they account for nearly 87% of the value of mineral production, whereas metallic and non-metallic constitute 6 to 7%.

Fuel Minerals: Coal, oil and natural gas are the basic fossil fuel. We are fortunate to have good reserves of coal but are very poor in more essential fuels—oil and natural gas.

Coal: Proven coal reserves of the country, as on January '94, (estimated by GSI) were about 68 billion tonnes. We are mining about 250 tonnes annually (coal production and consumption pattern are given in table 1) and this rate is expected to go up to 400 tonnes by 2000 A.D. At this rate the reserves are expected to last about 200 years.

Crude Oil (Petroleum): It took millions of years for conversion of remains of micro-organisms living in sea into hydrocarbon. The conversion took place due to heat, pressure and catalytic action.

After fractional distillation and further processing petroleum provides us numerous products and by-

Table 2: Average % composition of petroleum products (with no. of carbon atoms) obtained through fractional distillation.

S.No.	Per cent Composition	Name of petroleum product
1.	25	Petrol
2.	45-60	Diesel & Kerosene
3.	15-20	Naptha
4.	8-10	Fuel oil
5.	2-5	Asphalt

products.

One million tonne of crude oil on fractional distillation provides about 0.8 million tonnes of petroleum products. The per cent composition varies with the quality of crude oil. (Table 2)

We have very poor reserves for petroleum, just limited to 758 million tonnes (proved reserves as on January '90). Our domestic production has increased from just 0.25 MT in 1950 to 9.4 in 1980. However, for the last six years, we have been tapping on an average 30 MT per year. The actual figures for the domestic production, import of petroleum and its products, consumption pattern and oil import bill of last six years are given in Table 3. About 40% of the total consumption of the overall petroleum products of the country is used in road transport sector

(in case of diesel, consumption of road transport sector is to the extent of 70% of the total diesel consumption of the country). Balance 60% is used in industries, including power generation, domestic and for other miscellaneous purposes. In view of rapid growth of vital sectors, the consumption of petroleum products has been increasing consistently over a period of last few years and is bound to increase at rapid pace in near future.

It is planned to increase the domestic tapping capacity to 50 MT before/by 2000 A.D.

As per data available for 1992-93, the installed capacity of India's refinery units is 52.23 MT which in a period of next 3-4 years is likely to increase to about 90 million tonnes. Increased refinery capacity will help reducing foreign exchange burden. Import of refined petroleum products is much more costlier than import of crude petroleum.

The current oil reserves of India are going to last only for next 15-20 years. A major breakthrough in finding new reserves is very necessary.

However at global scale, the situation can be termed as satisfactory, rather it has improved over the period of last fifteen years. There has been a steady increase in locating new reserves and now the world-wide proved oil reserves stand at 999.7

Table 1: Coal production & consumption pattern (in million tonnes)

Coal production pattern		Coal consumption pattern		
Year	MT	(1993-94)	MT	%
1950	32.8	Power Sector	165.21	59.8
1960	52.6	Steel	32.57	13.8
1970	73.7	Cement	10.36	4.4
1980	109.1	Misc.	38.66	22.0
1990-91	228.9			
1992-93			246.8	100.0
1993-94	246.03			

billion barrel, as on Jan 1, 1995. On the other hand, the world oil production is looming around 19-22 billion barrel per year. As a result of these two factors, the R/P (Reserve-Production ratio) which was 30 years about fifteen years back has now gone upto about 45 years.

Natural Gas: The proven reserves for natural gas, as on April '93, works out to be approx. 700 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM). As regard to production, vis-a-vis utilization aspect, in earlier year more than half of gas coming out of the wells remained unutilized. However, in recent years we have achieved a utilization rate of 80-90%. Keeping in view the future demands and proven gas reserves, our gas reserves will last for not more than 20 years.

Metallic and Non-metallic minerals: India is poorly endowed with mineral wealth. Except for iron ore and bauxite, our share of world reserves of every other mineral is one per cent or less. However, there has been a phenomenal growth in production since independence (Table-4) and if the present trend of production continues, we will exhaust our reserves of all the important minerals and fuels, except coal, iron ore, limestone and bauxite, very early in the next century.

Table 3: Domestic production, import and consumption pattern of petroleum and its product of last six years.

Year	Domestic production of petroleum	Import		Consumption of Petroleum products	Import Bill (Rs. Crores)
		Petroleum	Petroleum products		
1990-91	33.02 MT	20.79 MT	8.6 MT	55.04 MT	10,779
1991-92	30.34 MT	24.13 MT	8.76 MT	56.84 MT	13,038
1992-93	26.95 MT	26.20 MT	10.4 MT	56.00 MT	15,185
1993-94	27.02 MT	29.00 MT	12.08 MT	60.00 MT	17,729
1994-95	32.26 MT	27.00 MT	13.5 MT	66.50 MT	17,393
1995-96*	32.00 MT	29.00 MT	19 MT	70.50 MT	23,000

*All figures for year 1995-96 are Provisional (we tap nearly 22 MT from Bombay offshore area, which in present day context accounts for 70% of the total production)

Table 4: Geological reserves and Production trends of selected metallic and Non-metallic minerals (in MT)

Type	Geological Proved reserves	Production Trend			
		1950	1960	1970	1980
Metallic Minerals:					
1. Iron ore	12740	3.0	16.6	31.4	40.9
2. Copper ore	400	0.366	0.448	0.518	2.005
3. Bauxite	2190	0.065	0.387	1.374	1.778
Non-metallic Minerals:					
1. Manganese	80	0.9	1.5	1.9	1.9
2. Limestone	63160	2.3	12.9	23.8	29.2

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CAREER

Preparations for Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination?

Civil Services is one of the most sought after careers today and almost every graduate dreams to be in these esteemed services. Every year lakhs of candidates appear in the preliminary examination and only selected few hundred get the distinction of joining the Civil Services. Usually, fresh candidates are at a loss as to how best to prepare so as to be successful in this tough competition. Being a three-phased competition, the Civil Services Examination has a preliminary examination, the main examination and the personal interview. While the main examination is conventional and descriptive in nature, the preliminary examination is objective type multiple choice examination, which aims at identifying the serious candidates and acts as a screening test.

Every graduate in any discipline is eligible to take this examination. Even those who have appeared or intend to appear in the final examination of graduation are eligible. The examination consists of two papers which are held on a single day. While Paper-I is compulsory, Paper-II is optional. Paper-I consists of General Studies and carries a maximum of 150 marks. For Paper-II the candidates are given a variety of optional subjects to choose from, including Agriculture, Botany, Zoology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Statistics, Veterinary Science, Physics, Philosophy, Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Psychology, Sociology, Law, Public Administration, Economics, History, Commerce, Geology, Geography etc. This paper carries a maximum 300 marks. Being a screening test, the marks obtained

in the preliminary are not counted at the later stage. It must, however, be remembered that considering the large number of candidates appearing for the preliminary examination and total number of vacancies in the Civil Services, more than 90 per cent candidates are eliminated at this stage itself. Hence, this phase of the Civil Services Examination needs to be paid very careful attention.

Prepare Well

Before initiating the preparations, a few things must be noted by the candidates. The choice of optional subject for Paper-II has to be done very carefully. The candidates must plan ahead of time with eyes on the main examination and choose the optional which he/she intends taking up in the Mains. The preparations done for the preliminaries would assist the candidates in getting good grasp of the subject and the effort put in would not go waste after the prelims. Secondly, optional subject carries more number of maximum marks as compared to the General Studies Paper. Hence, its importance cannot be undermined. A candidate doing well in the optional paper is expected to fare well in the examination. Moreover, the optional subject for Paper-II should usually be the subject in which the candidate has either attained proficiency/higher academic qualification or in which the candidate feels at home. Another consideration is the performance of candidates in the said subject in the recent past. There are several subjects like History, Psychology, Sociology, Public Administration etc in

which even the candidates not having special or additional educational qualifications have been doing reasonably well, while the subjects like Mathematics, Physics, and Engineering are considered to offer tougher questions and the candidates with exceptionally good preparation only may expect to do well. But this observation may not be taken as the universal truth. Moreover, the aptitude and proficiency of a particular candidate in a given subject also plays an important role in arriving at a decision.

Availability and access to good and prescribed books is yet another consideration and often the candidates are also guided by this factor, particularly in smaller towns. Books for preliminary examination are available in plenty in common subjects but in case of specialised optionals like Mathematics, Engineering, Agriculture etc, one has to look carefully for good books which cover all parts of the syllabus.

Preparations for Paper-II also need specific planning. It would be wrong to confine the studies only to the multiple choice objective type questions. Unless a detailed study of the subject is carried out, it would be difficult to answer the questions on the subject properly. The aim, must, therefore, be to clearly understand the basics of the subject by covering each and every aspect of the syllabus. This provides a candidate with adequate self-confidence and knowledge to answer the questions correctly. It is better to consult various books on different aspects, as it is very rare that one single book covers the entire syllabus with total efficiency. After

going through all parts of the syllabus in detail and getting hold of the basic concepts, it is desirable to have sufficient practice in solving multiple choice objective type questions. A good book on objective type multiple choice questions or a good question bank on the subject concerned may assist the candidates a great deal. Such practice, on the one hand, would perfect the art of answering the questions correctly and rapidly, and on the other would enable the candidates in understanding the questions asked in various forms. It is normally observed that at times even simple questions are asked in such a complex manner that it becomes difficult to understand the question correctly.

It is not difficult to find out a candidate who had, during the past couple of years, appeared in the prelims with the same subject. It is always better to discuss the subject, its intricacies, pattern of questions and the books to be studied. In addition, it is also not difficult to identify the candidate offering the same optional subject for Paper-II within the same town/city. It is always fruitful to have detailed discussions on various parts of the syllabus, books to be consulted for the basics, multiple choice question books or question banks and other related issues. Finally, the practice of correctly marking the answer sheet by using minimum possible time will go a long way in helping you succeed.

General Studies

While the Optional (Paper-I) subject is very important, the candidates also need to do well in Paper-I. This paper has a maximum of 150 marks but in a competition like this where even a single mark matters a lot, these marks play a decisive role. Most candidates do well in Paper II since the subject chosen is of their interest and knowledge. As such the importance of Paper I is immense. Paper-I determines the top honours and a candidate doing well in this paper as well, can hope to

find his/her name in the list of candidates qualifying for the main examination. As there is no choice of subject for Paper-I and all the candidates are required to solve the same questions, this paper assumes enormous importance as anyone spoiling this paper cannot have any chance of qualifying the examination.

General Studies paper consists of questions on Indian Polity and Economy, History of India including Indian National Movement, Indian and World Geography, Current Affairs of National and International Importance, General and day-to-day Science, Mental Ability and Basics of Statistics etc. Questions on planning, budgeting, developmental programmes, latest issues of political and constitutional importance, panchayati raj, electoral reforms, natural resources, culture, growth of nationalism, Committees, Commission etc can be expected almost every year. Emphasis normally are placed on the general aspects of the subject which every educated person aspiring to join the Civil Services as an officer, is expected to know.

The fact that this paper needs special and thorough preparations need not be over-emphasised. The aspiring candidates are expected to have keen interest in the General Studies and are supposed to have a good amount of interest in current affairs. All the preparation starting from a scratch cannot be completed in the short period of 4 to 5 months and the candidates must begin preparations early. Regular and detailed reading of a good national newspaper, a standard competition magazine and a basic book on general knowledge is the essential pre-requisite. Those readers who still have two to three years of time left for becoming eligible to go in for Civil Services Examination must begin preparations now. The candidates who do not have enough background in the General Studies may have to put in harder effort to catch up with the others.

"General Knowledge Refresher" by

O.P. Khanna and "The Competition Master" make a unique combination for this purpose. In addition, a good and basic book on Indian Constitution, latest plan document and budget/economic survey, basic books like NCERT books on Indian History and National Movement, World and Indian Geography and General Science are certain other books which can fruitfully supplement the efforts. A good backgrounder on major national and international events assists the fresh starters to understand the background of any social, economic or political event, enabling them to understand the details and developments in a better way. In addition, the candidates who have recently taken the examination may also be consulted.

The candidates must bear one thing in mind. Exhaustive study of each and every aspect of the General Studies is essential. It would be wrong to presume that any single book would suffice. Every book has its strong and weak parts. It is, therefore, left to the candidate to consult as many books as possible, so that every aspect is studied in the required detail. Another important point is efficient time planning. The time available with the candidates for preparations is limited and it has to be intelligently utilised. The candidates must not waste the time unnecessarily by going into lengthy details of one particular aspect, leaving other important aspects untouched. Moreover, it is better to draw up a formal time table so that no aspects of both the papers is left unprepared.

To conclude, proper selection of optional subject, availability and selection of proper books and magazines, meticulous time management, proper planning, hard work and will to succeed are some of the attributes which play vital role in making a candidate successful. One thing good about this examination is that the preparations made do not go waste and are properly utilised for the main examination. Hard work invariably is rewarded with the sweet taste of success.

MANAGEMENT

Business G.K.

A number of management institutes are now holding their group discussions and interviews. Some common questions asked relate to the business world which candidates should be aware of. In fact, some tests have a section on business GK, which we have published in our past issues. Readers have requested us to carry more business GK as it is of immense help to them in preparing for MBA. We give some more current business information which will help the MBA aspirants.

Chairmen/Chief Executives

Hindustan Motors Ltd	Chandra Kant Birla
Mesco Group	Rita Singh
Enron	Rebecca Mark
ITC Ltd	YC Deveshwar
UB Group	Vijay Malhiya
VIP Luggage	Dilip Prasad
Shaw Wallace	Manohar Manu Chhabra
Bombay Dyeing	Nusli Wadia
Nirma	Keshubhai Patel
Raymonds	V Singhania
NEPCO	R.P. Khemka
BPL	TPG Nambiar
Isco	H.P. Nanda
IPCA Laboratories	Amrta Bachchan
DCM	V Bharat Ram

Bylines

Safekeepers in the nation	Godrej
The Ultimate Driving Machine	BMW
Bring Home the Leader	Videocon
Market leaders in shampoos	Hindustan Lever
Solutions for a small planet	IBM
Let's make things better	Philips
Let Truth Prevail	The Times of India
Driven by India	Mahindra and Mahindra
The Sign of Excellence	Omega Watches
Live Life Kingsize	Four Square
Success in different moulds	Ispat Group
Connecting People	Nokia
A Celebration of Life	Digam
Made for Each Other	Wills

Brands

Helix	Motor oils made by Shell
Van Heusen	Clothes
Ultima	Tyres made by JK Industries Ltd
Harmonix	Interior Furnishings from Vimal
Rangoli	Paints from Berger Paints
Lexus	Appliances from Usha Srinam

Mergers and Acquisitions (M & A)

Bidder	Target	Area
Whirlpool	Kelvinator	Appliances
SRF	Ceat	Tyres
McLeod Russell	Union Carbide	Batteries

Bidder	Target	Area
Heinz	Glaxo	Foods
Coca Cola	Parle	Soft drinks
Sara Lee	Transelektra	Mosquito Repellent
Ford Motors	Mahindra & Mahindra	Motors
Colgate	Cibaca	Personal Products
Godrej	Transelektra	Mosquito Repellent
Brooke Bond	Cadbury's	Ice Cream
	Kwaliti	Ice Cream
	Kissan	Food Processing
Warner Music	Magnasound	Cassettes, CDs
Electrolux	Maharaja	Appliances
Hitachi	JCT Electronics	Colour Picture Tubes
Torrent Group	Ahmedabad Electric	Power
	Company	

Questions

Q What is the name of the place where the meeting of the World Economic Forum was held?

A Davos in Switzerland

Q Name the organisation which carried out an attack on Kentucky Fried Chicken in Bangalore.

A Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangh (KRRS). Its president, M D Nanjundaswamy was remanded into judicial custody while KFC managing director Sandeep Kohli said that it would open another outlet soon.

Q What was the level of foreign investment in India in the last year?

A In 1994 Rs 141.9 billion worth of foreign investment was approved but only Rs 29.72 billion actually came into the country. In 1995 Rs 283.3 billion foreign investment was approved but provisional figures upto November show only Rs 58.80 billion actually came into the country. Actual inflows are much less than quantum of foreign investment approved.

Q What is the level of India's defence spending as a percentage of GDP?

A India's defence spending is 2.78 per cent of GDP for the year 1993. It has in fact reduced from 2.9 per cent in 1990 to 2.60 per cent in 1991 and 2.49 per cent in 1992. On the other hand Pakistan's defence spending was 6.96 per cent of GDP and China spent 5.53 per cent.

Q Which company has launched its GDR issue?

A Steel Authority of India (SAIL) has become the first company this year to launch its \$150 million GDR issue. Other companies which may come up for a GDR issue are NTPC, SBI, BPL and IOC. SAIL is among the top 10 steel producers in the world.

Q What is the level of fiscal deficit?

A The fiscal deficit for 1995-96 is expected to be 5.8 per cent of GDP against the target of 5.5 per cent. It was 6.7 per cent in 1994-95.

Q What is the name of the companies owned by hawala accused Jains?

A The flagship company of the group is Bhilai Engineering Corporation. The other companies are Bharat Industrial Works and Syndicate Engineering.

Q. The Sensex is the index of stock market since long. Which is the new index?

A. CRISIL-500. The index is made by the Credit Rating and Information Services of India and covers 97 industries and 500 companies. Since it covers larger number of shares, it may reflect the stock market position better and will not fluctuate as dramatically like the Sensex, which covers 30 companies.

Q. Which company has tied up with Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd to make the light transport aircraft?

A. Reliance. The company will invest Rs 40 crore while HAL is putting Rs 15 crore. The Russian collaborator, Myasishchev Design Bureau, is putting another Rs 40 crore and National Aerospace Laboratories has granted Rs 25 crore.

Q. With which company is Shell tying up with to market liquid petroleum in 5.5 kg cylinders?

A. Eagle Flask Industries.

Q. With which company has Oberoi's tied up with to set up restaurants in Australia?

A. Hard Rock Cafe, a US chain. The chain may be expanded to New Zealand and India too.

Q. What are GDRs?

A. Global Depository Receipts.

Q. What are IPOs?

A. Initial Public Offerings, which means shares being offered for the first time to the public.

Q. What is Java?

A. It is a computer language launched by Sun Microsystems in 1995 which has become the standard on the Internet. It allows any program written in it to be compatible with all chips and operating systems. It does not require huge space for software but can reach across the Internet to pick up the specific application, called an applet, that it requires.

Q. Which company is trying to take over Modiluft?

A. NEPC. It made an offer to buy Modiluft shares at Rs 29 per share.

Q. Who is the chief executive of Hindustan Thompson Associates?

A. M.K. 'Mike' Khanna. He has been inducted on the board of J. Walter Thompson, the world's premier advertising agency; he is the first Indian on its board.

Q. Who is the president of the SAARC Economic Association?

A. Economist V.R. Panchmukhi has been elected president of the newly formed association.

Q. Which company has tied up with state electricity boards of Gujarat and West Bengal to set up distribution improvement projects?

A. Electricite de France (EDF). The company is already participating in the Bhadrawati power project in Maharashtra.

Q. Which merchant banker has been suspended by SEBI for failure to exercise diligence in the MS Shoes scandal?

A. SBI Capital Markets (SBI Caps).

Q. Which company is tying up with Haryana Financial Corporation for an insurance venture?

A. Allianz Capital and Management Services.

Q. What is the level of rice exports from India?

A. India exported 4.48 lakh tonnes valued at Rs 340.39 crore of rice in 1994-95. This year upto November 1995, it has exported 26 lakh tonnes valued at Rs 1580 crore, becoming the world's second largest rice exporter.

Q. Why was the cash reserve ratio reduced recently?

A. The cash reserve ratio was reduced from 15 per cent to 14 per cent in two steps recently. This was done to release some funds in the economy, which was facing a severe liquidity crisis. A one per cent reduction released Rs 4,000

crores.

Q. What is fuzzy logic?

A. It is a technology that grafts the impreciseness of human thought on to computer systems. Fuzzy controllers already work in industries, using underlying rules but changing responses to changing production situations.

Q. Name the chairman of Peerless General Finance and Investment Co., who resigned recently.

A. P.C. Sen. He resigned after the Supreme Court verdict on rates of commission earned by the company.

Q. Which committee was set up to look into the insurance sector?

A. The Malhotra Committee, which has recommended that private sector should be allowed to enter the insurance sector. However, the minimum capital for the new entrant should be Rs 100 crore.

Q. ITC Ltd was in the news for sponsoring the World Cup. For what other reason is the company now in the news?

A. The company faces a Rs 837 crore penalty for excise evasion. The company is alleged to have sold cigarettes at a higher price than the one printed on packets, thereby paying less excise duty.

Q. In terms of borrowings, what is India's rank in borrowings from the World Bank?

A. China was the top borrower from the World Bank for the year 1994-95 with \$3 billion, Mexico was second with \$2.3 billion India was third with loans totalling \$2.1 billion.

Q. What is the size of the pollution control industry in India?

A. Rs 5909 crore in 1994, which is expected to go up to Rs 14,000 crore by the year 2000. India's current spending on environment protection is 0.3 per cent of GNP as against 1-3 per cent in developed countries.

Q. Which company got into a controversy for using Hitler's picture in their advertisements?

A. Punwire. The advertisements for pagars carried Hitler's picture, offending people. The ads were withdrawn.

Q. What is the level of foodgrain production in India during 1994-95?

A. According to a report by the Ministry of Agriculture, India reaped a record harvest of 189.77 million tonnes, which is 4.7 tonnes more than last year.

Q. Is there a correlation between economic growth and economic freedom?

A. According to a study, countries with more economic freedom have higher growth. On a scale of 10, Hong Kong, Singapore and USA come at the top while India gets a rating of 4.5, lower than even Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Q. Which companies have become the official suppliers for the World Cup?

A. ITC has paid 8 million pounds for the title sponsorship of the World Cup. The other sponsors are: Visa credit cards, Coca Cola, Fuji Films, Wimpy's Fast Food, Taj Hotels, Indian Airlines and so on.

Q. Who was the person who first introduced the concept of re-engineering?

A. Michael Hammer.

Q. What is the share of women's contribution in managerial posts?

A. About 23 out of every 1,000 administrative and managerial jobs belong to a woman. The figure is 116 for China and 402 for the USA. Among professional and technical workers, there are 205 women for every 1,000 jobs, compared to China, which has 451 and USA, which has 508 women in every 1,000 jobs.

Q. What is Indi World?

A. It is India's first daily electronic news and information service on the Internet.

ADMISSION ALERT

THE COMPETITION MASTER'S GUIDE TO MANAGEMENT RELATED COURSES

This column alerts our readers about forthcoming examinations Institutes should send us information well in advance to be included in this feature Readers are advised to assess their own suitability before applying—this column is not a recommendation of any course or institute

Statistics, Economics, Computer Science

1. (a) **B.Stat (Hons)**—3 years full time. Eligibility: 10+2 with Maths and English

(b) **M.Stat**—2 years. Eligibility Graduation with Stats or Maths

(c) **M.S. in Quantitative Economics**—2 years. Eligibility: Graduation with Econ and Maths

(d) **M.Tech in Computer Science**—2 years. Eligibility: Master's/Bachelor's degree in Engg or Technology, MBA or MCA

Last date: March 29, 1996 **Written test:** May 12, 1996 **Apply to:** Dean of Studies Indian Statistical Institute, 203 Barrackpore Road Calcutta—700 035 with a DD of Rs 60

2 **Part-time Course in Statistical Methods and Applications**—Eligibility Graduates with Maths **Last date:** March 29, 1996 **Written test:** May 12, 1996 **Apply to:** Indian Statistical Institute SJS Sansanwal Marg New Delhi—110 016 with a DD of Rs 60

Engineering/Architecture

1 **Common Engineering Entrance Test (CEET-96)**—(4-year engineering and 5 year architecture course) Eligibility 10+2 of Haryana Board/CBSE or equivalent **Last date:** April 5, 1996 **Written test:** June 2, 1996 **Apply to:** Principal Regional Engineering College, Kurukshetra with a DD of Rs 60

2 **Combined Entrance Examination (CEE-96)**—Eligibility Class 12 with minimum 60% marks in Physics Chemistry and Maths aggregate and minimum age 17 years **Last date:** March 25, 1996 **Test:** May 19, 1996 **Apply to:** Registrar University of Delhi, Delhi with a DD of Rs 230

3 **Diploma in Industrial Engineering**—18 months, and in Industrial Management—2 years Eligibility Bachelor's degree in Engg/Tech GATE qualified graduate for IE diploma **Last date:** April 30, 1996 **Apply to:** Asstt Registrar NITIE, Vihar Lake, Bombay—400 087 with a DD of Rs 350

Management

1 **PGDBM**—(2 years) **Written test:** May 12, 1996 **Apply to:** BIM TECH Birla Vidya Niketan Complex, Sector IV Pushpa Vihar, New Delhi - 110 017

2 **PGDBM**—(2 years) Eligibility Graduate in any discipline open for women candidates only **Last date:** March 16, 1996 **Apply to:** India International School of Management, Gurukul Marg, SFS Mansarovar, Jaipur—302 020 with a DD of Rs 250

3 **PGDBM**—(2 years) Eligibility Graduate **Last date:** April 10, 1996 **Written test:** MAT on May 19, 1996 **Apply to:** Indian Institute of Science and Management, Institutional Area, Pundag, Ranchi—834 004 with a DD of Rs 275 and an application to AIMA for MAT

4 **PGDBM**—(3-year, part-time, evening) Eligibility Graduate with 2 years working experience **Last date:** March 16, 1996 **Apply to:** New Delhi YMCA Institute for Management Studies, Jai Singh Road, New Delhi—110 001 and Rs 110 through MO

Distance Learning

1 **MBA and Master of International Management (MIM)**—Eligibility.

Graduate: Last date May 31, 1996 **Apply to:** International Institute of Management Sciences, Post Box No 609 Jaipur—302 004 with a DD of Rs 250

Hotel Management

1 **Diploma Programme in Hotel Management**—(3-year, full time) Eligibility 10+2 with English as compulsory subject **Age:** Not more than 22 years **Written test:** April 28, 1996 **Last date:** March 16, 1996 **Apply on the prescribed format to:** National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology, Post Bag No 2281, Chanakyapuri PO, New Delhi—110 021 with a DD of Rs 325.

2 **Bachelor of Hotel Management**—(3 years, full time) Eligibility Class XII with minimum 50% marks **Last date:** March 20, 1996 **Written test and group discussion:** mid-April, 1996 **Apply to:** Principal, Welcomgroup Graduate School of Hotel Administration, Valley View, Manipal—576 119, Karnataka with a DD of Rs 300 favouring 'Dr TMA Pai Foundation'

3 **Bachelor of Hotel Management (BHM—3 years), PG Diploma (1 year) and Diploma in Hotel Management (3 years)**—Eligibility: 10+2 for BHM and Graduate for PG Diploma **Last date:** May 15, 1996 **Apply to:** Srinivas College of Hotel Management, GHS Road, Mangalore—575 001 with a DD of Rs 125

4 **Diploma Course in Hotel Management (3 years)**—Eligibility 10+2 with minimum 45% marks and age below 22 years **Written test:** May 26, 1996 **Apply to:** Indian Institute of Hotel Management, 11, IAS Colony, Kidwai Park Patna with a DD of Rs 250

5 **Diploma in Hotel Management (3 years)**—Eligibility 10+2 and age below 22 years **Last date:** April 10, 1996 **Written test:** MAT on May 19 **Apply to:** Indian Institute of Science and Management, Pundag, Ranchi, with a DD of Rs 275 and apply to AIMA for MAT

6 **BA in Hospitality Management (4 years) and Diploma in Hotel Management (3 years)**—Eligibility 10+2 **Apply to:** RM Institute of Hotel Management, N-13 Sainik Farms, New Delhi with a DD of Rs 300.

Programmes at JNU

MA, M.Phil, Ph.D in International Studies, Languages, Social, Life and Environmental Sciences, Biotechnology, Computers and Physical Sciences—**Last date:** April 2, 1996 **Apply to:** Deputy Registrar Admissions, Jawaharal Nehru University New Delhi - 110 067 with an IPO of Rs 50 For further details see edvt published on February 18, 1996

Company Secretary

Foundation Course—(8 months) Eligibility 10+2 or equivalent **Last date:** March 31, 1996 **Apply to:** Institute of Company Secretaries of India, ICSI House, 22 Institutional Area, Lodi Road, New Delhi—110 003 with a DD of Rs 35

Agricultural Sciences

B.Sc/M.Sc in Agricultural Sciences—Eligibility Intermediate for B Sc and 55% marks in graduation for M Sc **Last date:** April 10, 1996 **Written test:** June 9, 1996 **Apply to:** GB Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar—263 145, Dist Nainital, with a DD of Rs 25 for B Sc and Rs 50 for M Sc

Social Service

Diploma Course in Mental Retardation—(1 year) Eligibility 10+2/Intermediate or equivalent **Minimum age:** 18 years **Course will be available in different States:** **Last date:** April 30, 1996 **Apply to:** National Institute for Mentally Handicapped, Manovikas Nagar, Secunderabad—500 009 with a DD of Rs 30

VOCABULARY

Improve Your Word Power

1. **array**: (a) confusion (b) series (c) contradiction (d) compulsion.

2. **banter**: (a) jest (b) murmur (c) whisper (d) rest.

3. **canard**: (a) information (b) entertainment (c) rumour (d) analysis

4. **disparate**: (a) different (b) similar (c) proud (d) humble.

5. **effulgence**: (a) discovery (b) invention (c) radiance (d) suffering.

6. **forebode**: (a) decide (b) judge (c) believe (d) warn.

7. **gullible**: (a) scholarly (b) credulous (c) critical (d) childish.

8. **hodge-podge**: (a) ignorance (born) (b) enlightenment (delayed) (c) effort (sincere) (d) collection (confused).

9. **imprimatur**: (a) description (b) suggestion (c) permission (d) invitation.

10. **keel**: (a) collapse (b) struggle (c) recover (d) narrate.

11. **loom** (v): (a) vanish (suddenly) (b) appear (threatening) (c) grow (fast) (d) run (slow).

12. **mulch**: (a) deep thinking (b) protective covering (c) slow moving (d) rapid reading.

13. **nincompoop**: (a) social reformer (b) successful artist (c) popular singer (d) foolish person.

14. **obesity**: (a) excellence (b) darkness (c) fatness (d) barrier.

15. **pussyfoot**: (a) act (dangerously) (b) act (timidly) (c) suffer (silently) (d) work (consistently).

16. **raunchy**: (a) obscene (b) delicate (c) deliberate (d) selfish.

17. **spook**: (a) enlighten (b) frighten (c) deepen (d) impoverish.

18. **taciturn**: (a) talkative (b) learned (c) reticent (d) secretive.

19. **yucky**: (a) pleasing (b) stinking (c) bright (d) disgusting.

20. **zealot**: (a) pick-pocket (b) fanatic (c) devotee (d) informer.

ANSWERS

1. **array**: (b) series, display, arrangement.

—Small wonder then that human beings have an *array* of defences to protect their self-esteem.

2. **banter**: (a) jest, speak jokingly or playfully.

—To *banter* even when the situation is grave, is an art which a very few people know or practise.

3. **canard**: (c) rumour, false report.

—Some people derive sadistic pleasure in spreading *canards* about their opponents.

4. **disparate**: (a) different (in kind or degree).

—To everybody's surprise and dismay, all the five experiments gave quite *disparate* results.

5. **effulgence**: (c) radiance, glory.

—Only an interplay of freedoms between the writer and the reader can result in the autonomic (personal) *effulgence* of a work of art.

6. **forebode**: (d) warn, foreshadow.

—Populism and the resultant profligacy on the part of any government *forebodes* economic disaster of fearful dimensions.

7. **gullible**: (b) credulous, easily deceived.

—He must have been pretty *gullible* to fall for that old trick.

8. **hodge-podge**: (d) confused or disorderly collection.

—The audience failed to appreciate his speech because it was an *hodge-podge* of other people's ideas.

9. **imprimatur**: (c) permission, approval.

—The Cabinet has given its *imprimatur* to the policy of sanctioning or starting power projects in the private sector.

10. **keel**: (a) collapse, fall over.

—Not long ago, the Indian economy was *keeling* over into near bankruptcy.

11. **loom** (v): (b) appear or look (threatening).

—The prospect of another war over the disputed territory loomed large in everybody's mind..

12. **mulch**: (b) protective covering (of kill weeds).

—The fiction writers in England seem to have failed to capitalise on the social *mulch* that has grown there over the years.

13. **nincompoop**: (d) foolish person.

—Though the writer was a literary genius, he was also a political *nincompoop*.

14. **obesity**: (c) fatness.

—Since *obesity* is the result of abnormal eating habits, behaviour modification is an effective treatment.

15. **pussyfoot**: (b) act (cautiously or timidly).

—The Indian rupee is allowed to slide one day and desperately held up the next day by the nation's *pussyfooting* money managers.

16. **raunchy**: (a) obscene, coarse.

—The way *raunchy* advertisements are appearing both in the print and visual media, should be a matter of concern for all.

17. **spook**: (b) frighten, scare.

—Sometimes even a whiff of wind in darkness is enough to *spook* us for a moment.

18. **taciturn**: (c) uncommunicative, reticent.

—Some people, by nature and temperament, are *taciturn*, even in parties.

19. **yucky**: (d) disgusting, nasty.

—He was fed up with the *yucky* conduct of his children in midst of guests and strangers.

20. **zealot**: (b) fanatic, bigot.

—The world order today is being threatened by *zealots* and religious fundamentalists.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

NATIONAL

INTERIM BUDGET

CONFIRMING government claims, the revised estimates for 1995-96 show that the tax revenue touched Rs 81,088 crore showing a rise of Rs 6,714 crore over the budget estimates of Rs 74,374 crore. Customs collections overshot the 1995-96 budget target of Rs 29,500 crore by 19.8 per cent to touch Rs 35,352 crore as per the revised estimates. The budget estimate for 1996-97 is Rs 43,485 crore.

The central excise duties, however, have fallen short of the target of Rs 42,780 crore by Rs 1,780 crore. The estimate for 1996-97 is Rs 46,124 crore, showing that the government expects excise realisations to pick up in the coming financial year.

Total revenue receipts for 1995-96 touched Rs 110,191 crore exceeding the target of Rs 100,787 crore. The budget estimate for 1996-97 is Rs 127,162 crore.

Drop in RBI credit level: The revised estimates show that the Centre has managed to reduce the level of net RBI credit to the government, which has been high throughout the year. The budget deficit stands at Rs 7,600 crore against the estimate of Rs 5,000 crore, a slippage of Rs 2,600 crore. But RBI credit had gone up to Rs 16,000 crore for some time. It now appears that the government has managed to put out in the market much of the borrowings which had developed on the RBI for want of takers for government securities.

Target of 10m jobs per year: In his interim budget speech, Dr Manmohan Singh set a target of creating 10m jobs in the next year. He proposed to allot Rs 1,970 crore for the Employment Assurance Scheme for 1996-97. Allocation for education has also been increased, while the target of reducing the number of people below the poverty line has been put at less than 10 per cent by the year 2001.

PSU disinvestment: The government has slashed the target for disinvestment of equity holdings in PSUs for 1996-97 by Rs 2,000 crore to Rs 5,000 crore since re-

Recent Economic News

Crashing of the Rupee

On February 5, the Indian rupee experienced an all-time low against the dollar. It recorded a value of 38.30 against the dollar, following an all-round dollar buying spree led by State Bank of India (SBI) in the interbank foreign exchange (forex) market. SBI made purchases mainly on behalf of offshore oil companies. Other commercial banks e.g. Canara Bank, also made heavy purchases of the US currency on behalf of the corporate sector.

Subsequently, on February 7, the Reserve Bank of India announced a package of measures to curb the rupee slide. Broadly, these measures were: scheme of post shipment export credit denominated in dollars terminated, freeing of interest rate on post-shipment rupee credit for over 90 days, raising of interest rate surcharge on import finance from 15 to 25 per cent, cancellation of forward contracts and monitoring of intra-day transactions of authorised dealers, action to be taken against exporters who don't realise export proceeds within time limit—permission to realise proceeds after due date will be granted only in extraordinary circumstances.

While the rupee staged a comeback in the interbank forex market, the Minister of State for Commerce P. Chidambaram favoured the RBI's intervention. He pointed out that efforts should be made to peg the trade deficit at the "manageable" level of around 3.5 billion dollars. Exporters, however, decried the measures announced by the RBI. They said the measures would erode competitiveness and would prove counter-productive. Export credit, they said, would become costlier.

A cheaper rupee is supposed to have manifold effects. Indian goods with low import content become cheaper and more competitive in foreign markets. However, beyond a certain point, this becomes ineffective. Second, imports become costlier which leads to reduced imports of goods that can wait but an increase in essentials' import bill. Third, domestic inflation rises. Fourth, in the absence of competition—when domestic industry enjoys protection due to costlier imports—domestic prices can rise. Fifth, travel overseas becomes costlier. Businesses may also disregard the rupee and transact in hard currencies. Moreover, investors shift to gold, jewellery and land because of erosion of wealth held in rupees. More dangerous is the fact that there could be a flight of capital through hawala transactions.

RBI measures to halt slide of Re

It announced a series of tough measures, principally aimed at squeezing exporters into bringing their retained earnings into the country by cutting export credit and discouraging untrammelled imports by hiking import credit costs. It also warned market speculators of closer supervision and tough action.

The measures

- Scheme of post-shipment export credit denominated in dollars terminated.
- Interest rate freed on post-shipment rupee credit for over 90 days.
- Interest rate surcharge on import finance raised from 15 per cent to 25 per cent.
- Cancellation of forward contracts and intra-day transactions of authorised dealers will be monitored.
- Exporters who don't realise export proceeds within time limit will face action.
- Permission to realise proceeds after due date will be granted only in extraordinary circumstances.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

NATIONAL

ceipts were only Rs 357 crore against the target of Rs 7,000 crore last year. Major hikes in loans to PSUs have been announced, increasing to Rs 831 crore compared to Rs 439 crore in the previous year.

Subsidies: Both food and fertiliser subsidies continued to add pressure on the fiscal deficit by exceeding their allocations. Food subsidies stand at Rs 5,500 crore against the target of Rs 5,250 crore. Fertiliser subsidies were Rs 6,235 crore against the budgeted Rs 5,400 crore. The higher estimates are a result of several factors, including rise in input costs, high releases through PDS and rising international prices.

*(For more details see
Special Feature on P. 768)*

RAILWAY BUDGET

PRESENTING the interim railway budget (vote-on-account) in the last session of the 10th Lok Sabha on February 27, 1996, Minister of State for Railways Suresh Kalmadi did not impose any fresh levies on account of fares and freight charges. The budget envisages an estimated income of Rs 23,385 crore from the gross traffic receipts, which is Rs 1,210 crore more than the revised estimates for the current year. Additional revenue earning was expected as freight loads were expected to go up by 25 million tonnes and passenger traffic by 9 per cent.

The total working expenses for 1996-97 were estimated at Rs 20,807 crore, leaving the net traffic receipts at Rs 2,578 crore. After adding net miscellaneous receipts of Rs 279 crore, the net railway revenue is estimated at Rs 2,857 crore.

HIGHLIGHTS

- * Railways carried 365 million tonnes of freight.
- * Operating ratio improved to 84.9 per cent from 82.6 per cent (revised target).
- * Revised 'excess' is Rs 2,318 crore against budget target of Rs 2,055 crore.

* Internal and extra budgetary resources at about 85 per cent of the annual plan. Budgetary support at 15 per cent Dividend payment comes to Rs 1,360 crore.

* Railways internal resources for plan expenditure raised to Rs 4,423 crore from the budget estimates of Rs 4,100 crore.

SCANDALS

Hawala Claims More Victims

THE Hawala case continued to dominate the national scene as tainted ministers submitted their resignations. Textiles Minister Kamal Nath submitted his resignation on February 19, 1996. The next day Civil Supplies Minister Buta Singh and Minister of State for Agriculture Arvind Netam, also did so. Minister of State for Urban Development R.K. Dhawan was next.

On February 22, 1996 the CBI chargesheeted 14 persons, including R.K. Dhawan, C.K. Jaffar Sharief, A.K. Sen, Harmohan Dhawan, N.D. Tiwari, Buta Singh, Arvind Netam, Kamal Nath, Natwar Singh and Sharad Yadav. The CBI also sought the President's sanction to prosecute Delhi Chief Minister Madan Lal Khurana, who submitted his resignation. The chargesheets were filed in the court of Special Judge V.B. Gupta.

The politicians against whom non-bailable warrants had been issued by the designated CBI court, were granted anticipatory bail by the High Court. The special court also accepted the bail bond of BJP president L.K. Advani.

Meanwhile, the Supreme Court, on March 1, 1996, freed the CBI from the control of the Prime Minister in the hawala case. The court ordered the CBI not to accept instruction from any authority or furnish any particulars to those who were likely to be affected by the probe.

Housing Scam

AFTER receiving over 200 complaints, the Supreme Court ordered the CBI on February 14, 1996 to probe into out-of-turn allotments of over 8000 Government houses in Delhi, made during 1989-94. The Public Accounts Committee of Parliament noted that the percentage of out-of-turn allotments, with reference to total number of allotments made in a year, had "progressively increased from 26.4 in 1991 to 33.1 in 1992, 38 in 1993 and 47.19 in 1994", as against the prescribed norm of 20 per cent and in some categories of houses the percentage was more than 85.

The Supreme Court directed the CBI to complete the probe within two months and submit the report by April 15, 1996. The CBI's task revolves around the cases where the flats were acquired after payment of bribes.

The move is likely to expose a scam bigger than the hawala case, as in a majority of the cases the allottees had allegedly paid an amount ranging from Rs 20,000 to Rs 1 lakh.

Bihar Fodder Scam

THE Patna High Court, on February 22, 1996 issued notices to the CBI, Bihar's Chief Commissioner of Income Tax and the Principal Accountant General Ranchi to inform the court of their respective positions in the animal husbandry scandal.

The Bihar government set up a one-man commission of inquiry by a retired judge of the Patna High Court, to go into the excess withdrawals from various treasuries by officials of the Animal Husbandry Department of the State. Non-inspection of the treasuries for the last 15 to 20 years was primarily responsible for the fraudulent withdrawal amounting to crores. The government has lodged 32 FIRs against 458 persons, including 160 government employees, in connection with the scandal.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

NATIONAL

Biju Patnaik chargesheeted

THE Orissa vigilance department filed two chargesheets against former Chief Minister Biju Patnaik under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. Patnaik is alleged to have obtained benefits amounting to over Rs 16.35 crore during his tenure as a public servant. The first chargesheet was filed on February 28, 1996. It accused him of abusing his official position in granting concession on bamboo royalty to Ballarpur Industries Ltd. The money was stated to have been deposited in an account in the name of a Janata Dal MLA from where it was transferred to the personal savings account of the Dal leader.

RAJYA SABHA

Biennial Elections Held

THE biennial elections to the permanent body of the Union Legislature were held for the 60 seats, excluding the 11 seats in Uttar Pradesh for which elections could not be held for want of Assembly.

At the first instance 19 candidates were declared elected unopposed. Congress registered a clean sweep in Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Assam and bagged 10 seats from other five States. After the contest of February 19, 1996, the Congress won 21 seats, the BJP 10, the Janata Dal 8, the CPI-M and the AIADMK 5 each, Telegu Desam (Naidu) 4, Shiv Sena 2, and CPI, AGP, Forward Bloc, TDP (NTR) and Independents got one each. The prominent leaders elected were former Karnataka Chief Minister Ramakrishna Hegde, Union Ministers S.B. Chavan and Mr N.K.P. Salve.

The outcome was on expected lines, reflecting the strength of various parties in the State Assemblies. There was no major cross-voting.

The Congress marginally improved its strength in the Rajya Sabha but it

continues to be in minority, thus making it obligatory to embark on the support of Opposition for major constitutional amendments. On the other hand, only a united Opposition can assert its presence as no single Opposition party has the strength to govern the show.

ELECTIONS

EC Recommends Realistic Poll Funding

WHILE emphasizing the exercise of reasonable control on the expenditure incurred by a candidate on his election, the Election Commission on February 20, 1996, recommended an increase in poll expenses limit to Rs 15 lakh for Parliament constituency, from the present limit of Rs 4.5 lakh. It also proposed an increase in the limit to Rs 6 lakh for the Assembly Constituency. These recommendations were made subject to the Government's making changes in the electoral law, to include the spending of political parties for the candidate's election expenses.

These measures have been suggested to curb the influence of 'black money' in the elections. The Chief Election Commissioner, Mr T.N. Seshan, in a letter to the Prime Minister wrote that the ceiling should be increased simultaneously with changes in Section 77 of the Representation of the People Act. While referring to the increase in the limit for reasonable expenditure, Dr M.S. Gill also stressed that the 'reasonable' ceiling should be decided from time to time.

Opposition seeks State funding: The Opposition parties have sought State funding of elections and opposed any "piecemeal" attempt to hike the ceiling on poll expenses to remove the ills of the electoral system. At the all party meeting, convened by the Home Minister S.B. Chavan, they also demanded introduction of a Lokpal Bill to go into complaints of corruption in

high places.

Supreme Court to curb poll expenses: On February 20, 1996, the Supreme Court expressed its resolve to wipe out the use of black money by political parties as the Union government conceded it had failed in ensuring the filling of income tax returns by the major political parties. The Apex Court observed that Section 77 of the Representation of the People Act was breeding corruption. Notably, Section 77 of the Act provides ceiling on the expenditure which could be incurred by a candidate during his election, but exempts expenses by his party on a third person. The case had been initiated by 'Common Cause', an activist organisation.

TELECOM POLICY

Privatisation Upheld by SC

ON February 19, 1996, the Supreme Court dismissed the writ petitions and upheld the policies of the Government on the telecom privatisation.

On the three issues viz., Privatisation, Regulatory Authority and Favouritism in the tenders, the Court ruled that the 'right to privatisation is with the Parliament'. On the charges of corruption and favouritism, Court ruled that no evidence was found.

The Supreme Court's decision ended the delay in privatising the basic phone services in the country. The judgment lifted the earlier stay granted on the finalisation of tender bid on five circles and retendering for 13 other circles. The three-judge bench, headed by the Chief Justice A.M. Ahmadi, said that the Government has the right to grant licenses to private operators under the Telegraph Act and privatisation as a fundamental concept can only be examined by the Parliament. In this regard the Court observed that an Independent Telecom Regulatory Authority will enable the country to har-

CURRENT AFFAIRS

NATIONAL

ness private gains for the social purposes.

UTTAR PRADESH

Uttarakhand agitators get compensation

THE Allahabad High Court has awarded compensation of Rs 10 lakh to the dependents of the each person killed during the Uttarakhand agitation, which was launched when Mr Mulayam Singh Yadav was the Chief Minister of UP.

The judgement pertains to the incident of October 2, 1992, when the UP Police and the Provincial Armed Constabulary opened fire in Muzaffarnagar on the Uttarakhand activists who were going to Delhi.

In its judgement the court observed that unusual belligerence had been shown towards the people demonstrating for the hill State of Uttarakhand. It ordered payment of compensation of Rs 2.5 lakh to the persons who sustained injuries resulting in permanent disability and Rs 50,000 for other injured persons and the nearly 400 people who were illegally detained. Besides, Rs 5 lakh compensation was awarded to victims of molestation.

In view of the gross violation of the human rights the court suggested that the State Government might consider establishment of Human Rights Commission to deal with complaints arising within the State, as envisaged in the Human Right Act 1992.

J&K

Militants Offer Talks

THE seven-year-old militancy move in J&K took an unprecedented turn on February 8, 1996 when four top militant leaders expressed their willingness to enter into a dialogue with the Union Government. Of the four militants, three,

namely, Babar Badr, Bilal Lodhi and Imran Rahi, have had links with militant organisation Muslim Janbaaz Force (MJF), Al-Barq and Hizbul Mujahideen, respectively. The fourth lesser known Ghulam Mohiud-Din hails from Muslim Mujahideen.

With the disowning of the proposal by various militant organisations, including the JKLF, cracks in the ranks of militant outfits have candidly surfaced. While doubts are being raised about the four having any mandate of the public in general, the four leaders have shown their mettle in mobilizing people's support. Nonetheless, the readiness of the four, who dared to cut across the militant divide, is seen as a very healthy indication to resolve the long prevailing Kashmir turmoil which has brought unfathomable loss to the economy and the inhabitants of this 'paradise on the earth'.

Ban extended on JKLF: Amidst positive indications on having talks with four militant leaders, the Union Cabinet on February 17, 1996 decided to extend ban on the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act. The ban, first imposed in 1990, was subsequently renewed in 1992 and 1994.

NUCLEAR POWER

Funds crunch hits projects

A funds crunch has hit India's nuclear programme, according to the chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission Mr R. Chidambaram. A major reason for the crunch is the non-recovery of dues for power delivered to various State Electricity Boards, totalling Rs 912 crore. The major defaulters are UP with Rs 269 crore, Rajasthan with Rs 112 crore and Haryana with Rs 107 crore.

The Nuclear Power Corporation has plans to increase the installed capacity of

its atomic power plants from the present 2,000 mw to 20,000 mw in the next two decades, but this would depend on budgetary support. An option being considered is to attract public funds though this would mean a change in the Atomic Energy Act, which vests ownership with the government.

WATER POLICY

Meeting of the NWRC held

THE meeting of the National Water Resources Council (NWRC) on February 6, 1996 evoked mixed views on the necessity of framing of guidelines on the sharing of inter-State rivers. While the Chief Ministers agreed that water should be treated as a national resource, there was no unanimity on guidelines regarding sharing of water. The Prime Minister assured that there would be no imposition from the Centre.

CHILD LABOUR

Implementation of Scheme Tardy

ACCORDING to a report by the Centre for Concern for Child Labour, the ambitious Rs 850 crore programme to eliminate child labour from hazardous occupations is not progressing well. The programme was launched in September 1995, a year after the Prime Minister announced the government's commitment to eliminate child labour in his Independence day address.

Against a modest target of pulling out 4 lakh children a year, only 70,000 children have been covered so far. At this rate, the annual target can only be reached by the year 2000.

The major hazardous occupations include carpet weaving, cement manufacturing, building construction, matchbox and beedi manufacturing and glass making.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL

The report also questions the rationale of aiming child labour only in the organised sector. This would leave room for exploitation of child labour in the informal sector, including small manufacturing units, *dhabas* and domestic work.

The States with the highest number of child workers are: Andhra Pradesh 19.50 lakh, Madhya Pradesh 16.99 lakh, Maharashtra 15.58 lakh, UP 14.35 lakh and Karnataka with 11.31 lakh.

HEALTH

TB claims 10,000 lives every year

At least 1 million cases of tuberculosis are reported every year in India resulting in 10,000 deaths, according to the National Institute of Nutrition (NIN). Malnutrition and TB are widespread and

often co-exist among large sections of economically backward population. Protein energy malnutrition is still widely prevalent among Indian children. Children suffering from malnutrition are an easier prey to the killer disease, according to NIN.

Television induced epilepsy on the rise

EXCESSIVE television viewing and over-indulgence in video games by children is leading to a steady increase in the incidence of epilepsy. Children are now glued to the television for a longer time now, according to the All India Neurology Update, 1996. Television induced epilepsy among children was common in the West but now cases are being reported in India too. Adults who watch excessive television were also prone to television induced epilepsy.

INDIA-PAKISTAN

Pakistan encouraging terrorism and narcotics trade

INDIA charged, Pakistan, again on February 29, 1996 of involvement in cross border terrorism and narcotics trade. In a detailed statement of the Ministry of External Affairs, five such incidents have been mentioned. In addition to the Purulia arms-drop and the seizure of 361 pistols and ammunition by the Delhi police, the other documented incidents are arrest in 1995 of a Pakistani national with a consignment of arms. An arms catch was also made in February following the arrest of four Pakistani nationals who were carrying pistols, ammunition and narcotics. In another incident, a Pakistani national was found hiding in the *Samjhauta Express*, who revealed that his mission was to

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CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL

organise terrorist activities in India.

Pakistan rejected Indian claims and levelled counter allegations of India's support to certain groups in Pakistan. India, however, dismissed the claims.

IRELAND

IRA Breaks Cease-fire with Bomb Attack

A powerful bomb blast on February 9, 1996, in London's Docklands business district, virtually brought an end to the 17-month old cease-fire by IRA, which began on August 31, 1994.

While US Government threw its weight behind the demand of British and Irish Governments asking IRA for renunciation of violence and honouring the cease-fire, Gerry Adams of Sinn Feinn, IRA's political wing, pleaded with Britain and Ireland to give a watertight pledge on holding all-party northern Ireland talks to salvage peace efforts. The IRA, in turn, blamed UK for the break-down in peace process and vowed to keep up its armed campaign against British rule.

Backed by US President Clinton, the British Prime Minister John Major and his Irish counterpart John Bruton are invoking on a joint Anglo-Irish solution to the problem of Northern Ireland's trouble spot. Unperturbed by the blasts, on February 12, 1996 the British Prime Minister John Major affirmed his decision to stick to his call for the elections. The M15, the counter-terrorist service, has activated itself to meet with the fresh challenges from the IRA's denouncing cease-fire.

BRITAIN

Major Survives Scott Report

FOLLOWING the publication of Judge Sir Richard Scott's report on arms sale to Iraq, the British Prime Minister John Major found himself on the verge of loos-

ing. Scott inquired into whether the policy to check the might of Saddam Hussain was changed as also whether Parliament was misled on it.

While maintaining that the Scott report gave a clean chit to the Government and the minister as also to the Parliament on the issue of sale of arms to the Iraq and conspiracy to send innocents in jail, Mr Major did not concede to David Trimble of the Ulster Unionists for a conditional support. Finally, on February 27, 1996 with Major's Government survived by one vote (320-319), the possibility of General Elections in Britain in 1996 also subdued.

MIDDLEEAST

Setback to Peace Process

ON February 7, 1996 the PLO announced its decision to have a new charter to honour its promise to Israel to amend its 1968 covenant. Israel expressed its willingness to pull out from South Lebanon, and the peace process in the Middleeast got a tremendous boost. But the two blasts of February 25, 1996, one in Central Jerusalem and the other an hour later in the southern port city of Ashkelon caused a major setback to peace efforts.

Bombs are nothing new in Israel. Since the Oslo accord, over 150 people have died during the last 30 months. However, the latest explosions, which claimed more than 22 lives and left more than 50 persons injured, are considered as the bloodiest since Israel signed the peace deal with PLO in 1993.

Again on March 3, 1996, at least 20 people were killed when a powerful bomb ripped through a packed passenger bus in Jerusalem. The Israeli government declared an "all-out war" against the radical Palestinian movement, Hamas, and decided upon measures to counter the terrorist threat. The next day another bomb exploded in Tel Aviv in a shopping mall.

The Qassam military wing of Hamas, which claimed to have carried out the blasts to avenge the January 5 killing of Yehia Ayyash, has demonstrated that despite its reduced strength it has the power to create trouble. And in the process it has given a serious blow to Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres who has called for early elections.

Both Mr Yasser Arafat and Mr Shimon Peres, whose political career depends on the peace talks, have announced to continue the peace process.

Software to stop outflow of capital

American economists have devised a computer software to detect improper import and export invoicing which is the root of money laundering through the hawala system. The professors at the Florida International University have created a global price matrix against which prices stated by Indian traders can be readily checked. Abnormal pricing could thus easily be detected.

Analysis of India's trade reveals significant outflows of capital exceeding an estimated ten billion dollars annually and contributing to the crash of the rupee. Application of the matrix can facilitate the detecting process based on economic cost-benefit criteria.

The study for 1993 revealed that Indian companies were exporting exercise bicycles for a price of 51 cents against a global price of 100 dollars. Imports were over-priced and tyres were shown to have been bought for \$1000 when their price was just \$150. In this way, the traders could hoodwink the RBI and generate funds abroad without bringing them into the country. The difference in prices go to feed the huge hawala network.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL

Recent Economic News

World Economic Forum

The World Economic Forum opened on February 1 in Davos emphasising on the fact that globalisation has had serious backlashes on rich countries as far as the social sector is concerned. Interestingly, an increasing number of politicians in the North (the First World) have been warning that globalisation has been taking jobs and investment from the North to the South. This has created unemployment and a new underclass in the North. There have been major changes from what was the trend earlier. Before this extensive globalisation process, when corporate profits boomed, it meant more jobs and increased job security. However, now as companies announce record profits, they also announce slashing of jobs. Corporate loyalties seem to be changing and assuming new, inexplicable dimensions. Unemployment seems to be on the rise even in European countries. Society is becoming increasingly unequal. The pace of technical change makes old skills obsolete and it has become difficult for employees to keep pace with these changes. In fact, it has also been suggested that investment should be shifted back to the North from the South. In spite of all these problems, it was also accepted that globalisation has helped inequality decline in the world on the whole even though it might have increased in the North. The effects of the globalisation process on the whole world are quite paradoxical.

BANGLADESH

Land-slide win for Khaleda Zia

UNPERTURBED by the strikes, processions, protests, the burning down of the office of the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) in Mymensingh and the gunning down of Nazi Mohammad Alim, the leader of Awami League on February 8, 1996 Prime Minister Khaleda Zia, ensured that the elections were conducted on February 15, 1996 as per the schedule. The Awami League, the major opposition party, along with the Jatiyo Party and Jammāt-i-Islāmī have been demanding the Prime Minister's resignation and conduct of elections under a neutral caretaker Government, boycotted the general elections.

Nonetheless, amidst unprecedented security arrangement to thwart a general strike, the elections were held for 252 Parliamentary seats as 48 nominees of ruling BNP including Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia had already been elected unopposed.

The low turn out elections has given

landslide victory to Khaleda Zia. But, the elections were condemned as mere farce by the Opposition, and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina has given a worldwide call for the non-recognition of Government in Bangladesh and urged upon the donors not to cooperate with it.

In pursuance with its demands, the opposition parties in Bangladesh announced on February 20, 1996 plans to embark upon strikes throughout March to nullify the result of the elections, which has left 45 people dead and 1000 injured. They also extended their much publicised Civil Disobedience by two days. While Bangladesh is riddled with the political turmoil, economists lament that the economic costs of the ongoing political confrontation extends far beyond the immediate production losses.

PAKISTAN

Report indicts on Human Rights

BY declaring February 5, 1996 a public holiday to register nation-wide strike-cum-solidarity in support of the militants

in Kashmir, Pakistan successfully surcharged Pro-Kashmir rallies. But it could not diminish the simmering discontent in Pak. The International Secretariat of the World Organisation Against Torture, on February 19, 1996, came out vehemently with a report on violent repression of protesters by the Pakistani security forces in Azad Kashmir, Gilgit and Baltistan. A memorandum signed by Mr Imran Masood, President of the Jammu Kashmir National Student Federation and Mr Javed Sharif, Coordinator of the National Awami Party, highlights the onslaught of State terrorism in POK (Pakistan-occupied Kashmir). These anti-Pak waves have been intensified with strengthening of the base of Afghan Mujahideens who are in conflict with members of the Sudazai tribe. The Kashmir International Front led by Mr Afzal Tahir, is trying to raise the issues in the West on behalf of the groups.

The worst of the protests came on February 25, 1996 when for the first time in over a decade the nationals of Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir held massive protest rally outside the Pakistan Consulate General in Birmingham. They were protesting against atrocities on the peaceful rallyists in Muzaffarabad on February 11, 1996.

Preparations for N-Test US intelligence officials have obtained information that Pakistan will conduct its first nuclear test blast if India carries one out in the coming months, according to the *Washington Post*. The evidence includes spy satellites showing that engineers are excavating a mountain in Baluchistan, near the border with Afghanistan. The US has privately warned Pakistan and India that conducting such blasts would force the US to cut off economic and military aid and also vote against international bank loans.

AFGHANISTAN

UN call to End Blockade

TAKING cognizance of the deteriorating situation in and around Kabul, the

CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL

UN Security Council during its meetings in February, expressed serious concern about the Afghan issue. The continuing conflicts in Afghanistan is seen as a grave threat to the stability of the region as a whole as, besides facilitating drug trafficking, Afghan provides fertile ground for arms transaction and terrorists.

In its statement of February 16, 1996, the Council President Madeleine Albright urged all leaders of the Afghan parties to put aside their differences and halt hostilities. It also urged Taliban militia, which controls most of southern and western Afghanistan to end blockade of Kabul it has affected.

Afghan offers power-share: Meanwhile, Afghan situation took an interesting turn when on February 25, 1996 the Afghan Government offered to share power with the opposition Hazb-i-Islami faction led by former Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar. It had earlier stated that it would make no deal with Rabbani without the agreement of other parties in the opposition Supreme Coordination Council Alliance.

BOSNIA

Peace Efforts Continue

IN February, following the accidental seizure of two Serb Military officers and the Croat-Muslim clashes, the Bosnia's peace process came under a new test.

Bosnia Croat protests took a violent turn when on February 8, 1996 the European Union official of Mostar, Hans Koschnick announced plans for new political structure to unify the Muslim-Croat town, which splits between Muslims and Croats. Croats attacked his car and office but the situation was defused when the Implementation Force (IFOR) came in.

European Union took over the administration of Mostar in 1994 in an attempt to reunite it. But reconciliation is far from real. And mediators fear that without unity

in Mostar the entire Muslim Federation will weather away along the Dayton peace accord.

However, an optimistic announcement came from the peace mediator Richard Holbrooke on February 18, 1996. In Rome, the US official affirmed that an agreement had been reached for the resumption of contacts. But the gains of Rome talks weekend on February 20, 1996 when the Bosnian-Serbs failed to turn up for talks with NATO aboard a US aircraft carrier.

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

USA upset over China's help to Pak

THE pressure emanating from the accusation on violations of American anti-proliferation laws by China, over the export of ring magnets and missiles to Pakistan and Iran, finally won over the Clinton Administration. On February 28, 1996 the State department confirmed that the Administration had asked the Export-

Import Bank to defer until at least March 23, 1996, any financing for US Companies wishing to export to China.

Earlier, withstanding the pressure from different Congressmen, on violations by China, the US President Bill Clinton, on February 7, 1996, had waived off the export restrictions imposed on the US satellite technology bound for China. This enables the Hughes Electronics Corp and Lockheed Martin to go ahead with improving voice, data and television transmission to China. While defending its decision the US stressed that the projects involved civilian communication and were not towards enhancing military capabilities of China.

Following revelation by the CIA on China's transfer of 5,000 ring magnets to the A O Khan Research Laboratory in Kahuta, Pakistan, Brown's one time exception to arm's aid to Pakistan came under severe criticism in USA, Pakistan's counter claim on non-acceptance notwithstanding. The ring magnets are used in gas centrifuges that enrich uranium for weapons.

Managing Commodity Boom

In an interesting report, the World Bank has suggested ways to the developing countries to deal with the commodity booms. The report said that commodity booms occur every 10 years or so. The World Bank has pointed out that the index of primary commodity prices is expected to increase by 8.6 per cent in nominal terms in 1995 and then decline in 1996 and 1997.

It suggests that Governments should not overspend or overcommit. Nor should they indulge in long term spending levels that they cannot sustain once the boom fizzles. The World Bank has also suggested that investment and import controls should be avoided to avoid real exchange rate appreciation. Governments should also diversify and adjust to help the economy deal with lower commodity prices when the boom subsides. There should also be some sort of a revenue stabilisation fund to smoothen adjustments in spending and also help compensate for countries with underdeveloped domestic financial markets. Hedging instruments should be used to control commodity related revenues and improve the ability of policy makers to plan.

The report points out that the private sector should be allowed to manage a larger share of windfall profits. Distortions in the form of capital account controls, trade restrictions, macro-economic instability should be reduced by encouraging trade and financial liberalisation.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL

Even at the time of the passage of the Brown amendment, several Senators had spoken against the \$ 368 million package to Pakistan. However, the Clinton Administration had said that the proof was non-conclusive. The Brown Amendment, approved by the Congress in October last, was signed into law on January 26, 1996. The Amendment lifted the five-year old embargo on the delivery of arms to Pakistan.

The latest revelations put an extra pressure on the Clinton administration and on February 29, 1996, the Clinton Administration decided not to transfer arms and military equipment worth \$ 368 million to Pakistan, for the time being.

USA-FRANCE

Chirac Visits US

THE visit of French President Jacques Chirac, the first State visit to the United States by a French President in 12 years, in the first week of February, 1996 was marked by varied developments. With French announcement to finally halt nuclear testing in the South Pacific and endorsement of US-sponsored initiative to achieve a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty this year, Chirac's visit to the United States has been rated as quite fruitful and harmonious. The differences on the perception of Africa, where the two countries opted to follow preventive diplomacy, were not allowed to diminish the celebrations of more than 200 years of Franco-American friendship. The visit of French President was warmly welcomed by US President Clinton particularly with France's decision to move closer to the military side of NATO.

While the Clintons were enthralled by the visit of the French President, a section of the US Congressmen registered a note of discord.

USA-CUBA

US President slaps Sanctions

THE relationship between the United States and Cuba had eased with US granting visa to President Castro to enable his participation in the 50th anniversary of United Nations in 1995. With Cuba releasing three political prisoners and making concessions on the migration issue, and with US business houses dramatically increasing their business ties, US and Cuba were deemed to be entering into a new phase of healthy co-existence. But, on February 24, 1996, the shooting down of two US-registered planes belonging to Miami exiles, carrying four members of 'Brothers to the Rescue' group, has once again brought to the surface the simmerings between the two. The shooting down of the planes is also seen as a challenge to President Clinton who is seeking reelection for another term as US President.

The US Administration called for an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council. On February 26, 1996 while the UN Security Council 'strongly deplored Cuba's downing of two civilian planes', the United States President Bill Clinton announced unilateral sanctions against Cuba.

EU

Europe fights US Culture

THE war against US cultural invasion has assumed serious proportions with Canada and Europe joining hands, to counter 'Hollywood imports'. The European Union has called upon its members to devote 51 per cent of their air time to European programmes. However, Canada has exhibited a rare sense of commitment towards its cultural heritage when, despite the threats which may endanger its free trade agreements

with the United States, it announced to market the V-chip to tune-out undesirable programmes.

IRAQ

Food-for-Oil Talks

THE April, 1995 Security Council resolution which allows Iraq to sell oil worth \$ 2 billion over a period of six months to buy food and medicines and other essential commodities, was till recently rejected by the Iraq as the Resolution made United Nations monitoring obligatory on the part of Iraq. However, faced with a fast deteriorating situation, on February 7, 1996, Iraq finally started the oil-for-food talks in the United Nations. Iraqi negotiator Abdul Amir Anbari held discussions on issues like oil production and its sale, handling of UN Escrow account towards UN Gulf war reparation fund, adequate distribution of humanitarian aid, besides the foremost issue of purchase and transport of food.

While the negotiations ended on February 20, 1996, without an agreement on the Security Council resolution, which would permit Iraq to sell oil to buy food and medicine for its people, the negotiators expressed their satisfaction for producing a document identifying the problems and were optimistic that their respective political leaders will make further decisions.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd resumes duties

DECLARING his illness was over, King Fahd resumed his duties in Saudi Arabia from February 22, 1996. The king had handed over the reins of power to his half-brother, Crown Prince Abdullah, in January. Fahd thanked Abdullah for performing his duties in the interest of the people and country.



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ABBREVIATIONS

NWRC: National Water Resources Council

REACH: Rehabilitate, Educate and Support Street Children

TACDE: Tactics and Air Combat Development Establishment

AWARDS

Moortidevi Award, 1994

MARATHI writer Shivaji Govindrao Sawant has been given the Moortidevi Award for 1994 for his novel *Mrityunjaya*. The award was instituted by Bharatiya Jnanpith in 1983 and is given annually for outstanding work which illumines Indian cultural heritage and philosophy.

Yeshwantrao Award, 1995

THE second Yeshwantrao Chavan National Award for 1995 was conferred posthumously on the late Punjab Chief Minister Beant Singh. The award carries Rs 1 lakh and a citation and is given by Yeshwantrao Chavan Pratishthan for outstanding contribution. The first award was given to former Union Finance Minister Madhu Dandavate.

BOOKS

Mrityunjaya

WRITTEN by Marathi writer Shivaji Govindrao Sawant, the book is a contemporary classic which retells Mahabharata through the eyes of Karna. It has won the Moortidevi Award for 1994.

The Making of a Cricketer

OFFICIAL biography of Sachin Tendulkar, written by his brother Ajit Tendulkar. Published by Ten Promotions, a company floated by Ajit, the book contains anecdotes from the Indian vice-captain's life and contains several photographs.

When Corporations Rule the World

WRITTEN by Harvard Business School professor David Corten, the book challenges mainstream economic thinking popularised by IMF and the World Bank. It says that the expanding power of multinational corporations is posing a threat to the ability of nations to protect their people and resources from uncontrolled exploitation.

Korten points out that in industrialised countries, job opportunities are declining and incomes are eroding. In the US, median income has dropped by 4.6 per cent since 1979. He attributes this to the power of multinationals, some of which have more economic clout than most nations and yet are fundamentally authoritarian and anti democratic. The 500 largest MNCs control 25 per cent of the world's output but employ only one-twentieth of one per cent of the world's population. Large MNCs benefit disproportionately from economic globalisation, often at the expense of society.

DEFENCE

Tiny, rare earth magnets developed

INDIAN defence scientists have fabricated tiny, powerful rare earth magnets for miniaturised electronic goods, defence, aerospace and medical applications.

The tiny magnets are made of an alloy of iron, boron and the rare earth material neodymium. A magnet of the size of a shirt button made of this alloy is as powerful as the traditional nickel-aluminium-cobalt (alnico) magnets of the size of a paper weight.

With an estimated demand of seven tonnes per year, they find use in telephones, microphones, micro-wave devices, relays and switches, motors, and magnetic separators.

India, which is endowed with world's third largest deposits of rare earth metals, has embarked on an ambitious

programme to indigenously develop and commercially exploit these magnets, which are projected to have a world market of \$ 6500 million by the turn of the century.

The indigenous magnets have been developed by the Defence Metallurgical Laboratory (DMRL), Hyderabad, under a project sponsored by the Technology Information and Forecasting Council (TIFAC) of the Department of Science and Technology.

EXPEDITION

India launches krill fishing in Antarctic

ON December 27, 1995 the first commercial expedition set sail from Kochi to Antarctica exclusively to catch krill, a delicate fish variety, for export to Japan.

There is a great demand for krills in Japan who consume it in large quantities as cheese paste. Japan itself is doing krill-fishing in Antarctica. Russia and Poland are the other major krill catchers.

India will use her own ship, Sagar Sampada for the fishing trips. A big team of scientists from the National Institute of Oceanography, Goa, accompanies the commercial expedition.

India set its first scientific expedition to Antarctica in 1981. Since then 16 expeditions, mainly for scientific studies, have visited the frozen icy continent. Two permanent stations, housing scientists, have been set-up to conduct studies round-the-year.

PERSONS

Sawant, Shivaji Govindrao

NOTED Marathi writer and novelist, Shivaji Govindrao Sawant is the winner of Moortidevi Award for 1994 for his book, *Mrityunjaya*.

PROJECT

NTPC plans to increase electricity generation

THE National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has drawn up an ambi-

tious plan to add 10,000 megawatt of generation by the year 2003 AD.

Eleven thermal and five gas-based power projects were generating 16085 megawatt at present, contributing almost 22 per cent of the total power generation in the country and was lighting one-fifth of the nation.

NTPC had a modest generation of 1120 million units during 1982-83 and touched a record of 78383 million units during 1994-95. NTPC controlled power stations had also maintained a plant load factor which was higher than the national level. During 1994-95, the average plant load factor of NTPC's stations was 76.57 per cent against the national average of 60 per cent.

With the vast experience gained in power plan engineering, NTPC's consultancy division had started consultancy activities at Dubai, Nepal, Bhutan and Tanzania. The corporation had also emerged as a financially viable institution, displaying enviable track record in financial management since its inception.

NTPC has been surpassing its past records of profits. During 1994-95 the company earned a profit of Rs 1124.55 crore against Rs 1057.95 crore during 1993-94. A dividend of Rs 130 crore had also been declared during 1994-95 while in 1993-94 it was Rs 65 crore.

RESEARCH

Holes in ozone layer curable: Scientists

THIS year's winners of the Nobel Prize in chemistry Mario Molina, F. Sherwood Rowland and Paul J. Crutzen said that the depletion of the earth's ozone layer will end if their guidelines are followed.

The chemistry laureates won the prize for research they did in the 1970s, sounding the alarm about ozone depletion. They put the main blame on chlorofluorocarbons, or CFCs, which are used in spray cans, refrigerators and air-conditioning systems.

Indian-born scientist develops new material

AN Indian-born American scientist today claimed to have used an innovative process of "atomic engineering" to produce a new material that can bring

down the size of the television set to a mere half an inch.

The scientist, Rameshwar N. Bhargava, said that he succeeded in doping impurity atoms into "nanocrystals", containing about 1000 atoms to create the new class of materials that exhibit unique electronic properties.

This luminescent phosphor material which gives off a green light requires just 300 volts, while similar ones produced using the conventional processes need about 30,000 volts.

This can reduce the depth of the television set from the present 45 centimetres to as little as one cm because it does not require a long cathode ray (picture) tube.

Besides, it has 1000 times better resolution than those made with traditional methods. Mr Bhargava is presently trying to develop similar phosphors of other primary colours using different transitional elements like europium and terbium.

India's first palmtop microcomputer

In a major technological breakthrough, two Indians have developed the hand held field microcomputer the first of its kind in India. What makes this microcomputer unique is that it is 100 per cent MS-DOS and IBM-PC compatible, and costs 50 per cent less.

To be known as SANDS HHIT-712, the import substitute computer has been designed and developed indigenously. According to its developers, Mr Pradeep Dutt and Mr L.R. Rajagopal, ex-Navy engineers, the research took over four years.

The result is a computer that satisfies the requirements in the field survey data collection, industrial applications, business and commerce.

The SANDS HHIT-712 represents a family of DOS compatible Universal Hand Held Field computers designed to support unlimited palm top portable application in IBM PC environment.

A few of the application areas of the hand held microcomputer are: EPABX systems, bar code data capture, PLC/CNC programmer, military field computer, instrumentation interface, field survey datameter reading and programming and

cellular-modem telephone link.

SPACE

Designing plants for space

SCIENTISTS at the North Carolina State University in the USA are about to begin research that could ultimately design plants suitable for space travel.

The university will receive five million dollars from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) over five years to study gravitational biology. The money will be used to establish a NASA specialised centre of research and training on the North Carolina State campus.

The centre's mission will be twofold—to research how plants perceive and respond to gravity, and to educate high school teachers about gravitational biology. The research aspect of the project will focus on how calcium, the most important individual chemical in plant responses to the environment affects the ability of plants to respond to gravity.

Mir's 10 years in space

TEN years and 2.5 billion km (1.5 billion miles) on, the Mir space station has outlived the Soviet Union that launched it, completing its first decade in orbit by toasting new financing from the West.

Its name means "peace", but it was the cold war that gave it birth. Now, with post-communist Russia in economic crises, it is money from Moscow's erstwhile adversary, the United States, that helps to keep the 120-tonne jumble of floating metal in service.

"We have financial troubles, but we can survive", Mir Mission Control chief Vladimir Solovyov told reporters during a reception to mark the station's 10th anniversary.

NASA fixes a date with Eros

NATIONAL Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) launched a spacecraft on February 16, 1996 on a three-year, 2 billion-kilometre journey to the asteroid 433 Eros, an asteroid named after the Greek god of love that's circling the sun relatively close to earth.

It will be the first spacecraft to orbit an asteroid, the rocky leftovers of the birth of the solar system 4.6 billion years ago.

The probe, dubbed Near for near earth asteroid rendezvous, is expected to slip into Eros' orbit in February 1999, and scrutinise the surface and the interior of the asteroid for almost one year.

The Near spacecraft should offer scientists the first really good, close-up look at an object which may preserve materials dating to the origins of our solar system, to the time when the planets, including earth, were first forming.

From February 1999 through December 1999, Near will fly as close as 16 kilometres to the potato-shaped Eros, estimated to be 40 kilometres long, 14.5 kilometres wide and 14.5 kilometres deep. The five major science instruments on the space-craft will determine the mass, density and composition of the asteroid and, possibly, detect any Moons if they're there.

Besides shedding light on the origins of the solar system, Near will also contribute to knowledge about how to keep earth from being clobbered and possibly wiped out by an asteroid.

Eros is currently no threat to earth. The closest approach this century was in 1975 at about 22.5 million kilometres

New comet approaching sun

A new comet "Hayakutake" is fast approaching the sun and will pass it at a distance that is only 10 per cent of the distance between the earth and the sun on March 26, according to the Jawaharlal Nehru planetarium.

This would provide an opportunity to see its glory after midnight from the second half of March.

MISCELLANEOUS

Starry trio to go global

SUBHASH Ghai's mega starrer Trimurti is the first Hindi film to be previewed on the information superhighways, Internet. Still pictures of the film's stars, a few dialogue deliveries and two popular numbers form the preview package for

Trimurti in Cyberspace—on the World Wide Web.

It is for the first time in the history of Indian cinema that such a hi-tech cyber presentation is taking place.

Sound Electronics Corporation, the company behind the cyperpreview, is the first Indian company to realise the potential of Internet as an advertising and marketing tool.

'Smart Card' shopping

SMART Card is a plastic card with a tiny integrated-circuit chip embedded on it. It will not only tell your bank balance but also help you pay in the shop, and debit the money from your account.

It contains extensive information on the cardholder, ensures complete confidentiality and protects against tampering and fraudulent use.

The American firm, Verifone, is trying to market machines that help a user read and write information on Smart Cards in India.

An electronic purse involves a smart card that stores a monetary value on its chip. The purchase amount is subtracted from the card value each time a consumer uses the card.

Smart Cards with a silicon chip are difficult to counterfeit and are better than plaster credit cards which can be stolen and duplicated.

Though relatively new technology, Smart Cards are becoming increasingly popular because of their unique properties—large memory capacities, built-in processing capabilities and high security.

Ford unveils car of the future

SYNERGY 2010, a Ford Motor Co. concept car that uses technologies being developed for a new generation of vehicles, a project of three automakers—Ford, General Motors and Chrysler—and the US government. It has electric motors powering each wheel, and has voice controls for turn signals, heater and radio, and its swoopy aluminium body looks like it would be at home in a science fiction film.

A hybrid vehicle, Synergy 2010 uses a small internal combustion engine to gener-

ate electricity for the motors at the wheels. It stores power and collects excess braking and engine energy with a flywheel. It weighs one-third less than a conventional car.

New standard for software industry

A new international standard, SPICE, (International Standard for Software Process Assessment) for process assessment in the Software industry is currently under trials.

A product of the International Standards Committee for Software Engineering, it has been designed to evaluate processes relating to the development, maintenance and acquisition of software.

The standard will enable purchasers to assess the relative capabilities of software suppliers and the risks involved in selecting them. Suppliers will be able to employ a single process assessment scheme recognised by most prospective clients. SPICE is expected to be introduced as a self-assessment standard in the first quarter of 1997.

And now cybercricket

GLOBAL One India, along with Magic Software, sponsored Cybercricket—the World Wide Web (WWW) home page, that provided interactive multimedia cricketing action of the World Cup, played in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, to millions of viewers on the internet worldwide. Through cybercricket day-to-day championship facts and exciting moments of the game reached cricket fans across the world, regularly and quickly.

The cybercricket web site in India provided connectivity through VSNL's (India) gateway internet service via a 64 kbps dedicated link.

Global One is a recent joint venture between Sprint International, Deutsche Telekom and France Telecom. This new alliance provides businesses and consumers the choice of advanced, economical and seamless telecommunications services worldwide. Global Link service provides internet ports transmission facilities and internet implementation for end user service providers worldwide. This service has nodes all across the USA, Europe and Asia.

SPORTS

ARCHERY

FITA Olympic Round

BIHAR regained the men's team title prevailing over Karnataka by 228-225 points. The women's team title went to Manipur, which shocked Bihar 191-187 points in the finals of the 17th FITA Olympic Round National Archery Championship at Cuttack.

CHESS

Kasparov vs Computer

GARRY Kasparov triumphed over the IBM supercomputer Deep Blue in the six game match played at Philadelphia. He beat the machine four points to two after three wins, two draws and one win for the computer.

Deep Blue can sift through 200 million possible chess manoeuvres per second. It made history by becoming the first computer program to beat a reigning world champion in classical chess.

Goodricke International Chess Tournament

THE seventh Goodricke International Chess Tournament held at Calcutta saw 9 grandmasters and 72 players from 13 countries. Three grandmasters, Nenashev of Uzbekistan, Jonathan Speelman of England and Igor Novikov of Ukraine tied for the first place and collected Rs 45,000 each as their share of the first three cash prizes. Nenashev took the Goodricke title on superior tie-break score.

Women's Champion

HUNGARIAN Zsuzsa Polgar beat Chinese teenager Xie Jun to become the new women's world chess champion. Polgar won by 8.5 points to 4.5 after 13 games played in Spain.

CRICKET

World Cup

THE World Cup Cricket Bonanza was inaugurated at the Eden Gardens, Calcutta on February 11, 1996. The opening ceremony was marred by a botched laser display. A net like curtain had been set up in the

stadium to reflect the images. But stormy winds played spoilsport causing it to flap around uncontrollably. Italian imagemaker Gianfranco Lunetta was completely left in the lurch with the failure.

The World Cup was also marred by a controversy when Australia and West Indies refused to play the matches in Sri Lanka. The meeting of the International Cricket Council proved to be a futile one when both countries refused to relent from their earlier stands. The organising committee, Pilcom, decided to award Sri Lanka walk-over for both the matches and the host country gained two points each from both the matches. The Indian and Pakistani boards agreed to send a combined Wills XI, led by Mohd Azharuddin, to Colombo and play a goodwill match on February 13, 1996 to demonstrate Pilcom's confidence in the Board of Cricket of Sri Lanka.

Vizzy Trophy

WEST Zone won the Vizzy Trophy with a 10 wickets victory over North Zone in the final played at Bangalore.

Solidarity match

WILLS XI, a combined team of India and Pakistan, beat Sri Lanka by four wickets in the Solidarity one-day match played at Colombo.

FOOTBALL

DCM Trophy

THE DCM football trophy was won by the Tractor Sazi Club of Iran with a 3-0 win over Punjab State Electricity Board played at New Delhi.

Federation Cup

HOLDERS JCT Mills beat East Bengal 5-3 in the 20th Lifebuoy Federation Cup football tournament held in Kanpur.

HOCKEY

Indira Gandhi Gold Cup

SOUTH Korea beat India 3-2 to retain the ninth Indira Gandhi Gold Cup Interna-

tional hockey tournament played at Lucknow. Australia claimed the third place with a 5-1 win over the USA.

Controversy about match fixing

CANADA alleged that India and Malaysia had decided to play a goalless draw which deprived it a slot in the Atlanta Olympics, during the pre-Olympic tournament in Barcelona. India's stand that the match was not rigged was vindicated when the international hockey federation, FIH, announced on March 3, 1996 that it found insufficient evidence to prove claims of match rigging.

SHOOTING

National Shooting Championships

INDIA'S Mansher Singh bagged the gold in the International Rules Men's trap finals at Madras scoring 142 points out of a possible 150, in the 39th National Shooting Championships in trap and skeet. Delhi lifted the team gold. Rao Inderjeet Singh won the skeet finals with Delhi again winning the team gold.

TABLE TENNIS

National Table Tennis Championship

CHETAN Baboor and Ambika Radhika of Petroleum Sports Control Board won the men's and women's singles titles respectively, in the 57th National table tennis championship held in Pondicherry.

TENNIS

Davis Cup

LEANDER Paes and Mahesh Bhupathi beat Holland 3-2 in World Group first Davis Cup first tie played at Jaipur. Paes defeated Jan Siemerink to set up Bhupathi for his first live rubber against Jacco Eltingh. India move on to a quarter final match against Sweden at home in April. It will be India's eighth consecutive Davis Cup tie at home. Defending champions USA, Germany, France and Sweden clinched places in the World Group quarter finals on the second day of their first round ties.

Question Box

Q. What are the bar lines which are found on foreign goods?

—Sonam Yangjor, Kullu (H.P.)

A. The bar code hides information about the details of the product, price, source and so on. The code has to be taken close to the 'electronic eye' of a machine which decodes the information, resulting



in quick and automatic billing—the operator does not have to punch in product details or price. Bar codes have large applications. The technology has now come to India and large companies and department stores can use it for quick and error-free operations.

Q. In your cover story on Space (December '95) you mention that Columbia was the first space shuttle but I think it was the Enterprise which was launched by NASA in 1976. Please clarify.

—Anjali Sood, Shimla (H.P.)

A. The first space shuttle was indeed the Columbia and it reached orbit on April 12, 1981. The other shuttles are Challenger, Discovery and Atlantis. 'Enterprise' was the name of the space-ship in which the crew of *Star Trek* travelled to stars and galaxies on their adventures. However, *Star Trek* is fictional.

Q. What is a 'Fortune-500' Company?

—N. V. Raghavan, Anantapur (AP)

A. Every year, Fortune magazine

compiles a list of the largest companies of the world. The Fortune-500 refers to these 500 companies in the list.

Q. How can I become a commercial photographer? What are his educational qualifications?

—S Chatterjee, Hooghly (West Bengal)

A. A good commercial photographer need have no educational qualifications, but his work must be good. You should learn all the techniques of commercial photography. Ideally you should become an apprentice with one. Many books on photography are available which can help you.

Q. I am an arts student but people tell me that there is no career in arts. Is that true?

—Amrita, Chandigarh

A. No. There are a number of career options that are available to an arts student. Which one you choose depends on your aptitude and interest.

Q. If you are sure about something, you say you are 100% sure. Why not 10% or 1000%?

—MGM Riyaz, Khammam (A.P.)

A. Percentage means 'out of 100'. If you are 100% sure, it means that there is no probability of going wrong. Being 10% sure means that there are 90% chance that you are wrong. Being 1000% sure would not make sense.

Q. Why do women not have beards?

—Debasis Rout, Cuttack (Orissa)

A. The development of our bodies depend on certain hormones. Men's

bodies have the hormones that result in growth of facial hair; women's bodies don't.

Q. How can I contribute articles to newspapers and magazines?

—Aparajit Banerji, 24 Parganas (W.B.)

A. A free-lance journalist must have a lot of patience. You can type your articles and send them to newspapers and magazines and keep looking out for them. If you send return postage, the publications will return your articles in case they are rejected. Most publications pay for accepted articles, and we wish you luck in your endeavour.

Q. What is a cat walk?

—Anut Juneja, Dehradun (UP)

A. The cat walk is the platform on which models walk during fashion shows. It gets its name from the lovely ladies (cats) who walk on it displaying the latest fashions and their bodies.

Q. What are the job prospects after doing M.Sc. in Environmental Sciences?

—Avinash Kumar, Patna

A. With interest in environment protection rising, it is expected that many qualified people will be required. An M.Sc. in Environmental Sciences will thus have a good scope.

Q. Does a snow-man really exist?

—Soma Karmakar, Bagdogra (W.B.)

A. If you made a man out of snow, it would be a snow-man. But if you are talking about yeti, the abominable snowman who has been reported by mountaineer-

ing expeditions, there is still no conclusive proof or photographs to show that he exists.

Q. What is the difference between GATT and WTO?

—G.M. Gazi, 24 Parganas (W.B.)

A. WTO is the new name for GATT.

Q. What is the percentage of literacy in India?

—N.S. Ramaniyayulu, Anantapur (A.P.)

A. The overall literacy rate in India according to the 1991 census was 52.11%. Male literacy was 63.86% and female 39.42%. Figures are not available for urban and rural areas.

Q. What is the possibility of AIDS spreading among animals?

—Vijayendra Sharan, Patna (Bihar)

A. Certain viruses exist in human or animals but do not affect both. The AIDS virus is believed to have existed in animals for long without being fatal. Its mutant form may have been transferred to humans somewhere along the line.

Q. What is LASER?

—Shilpi Salwan, Hoshuarpur (Punjab)

A. Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation (LASER) is a device that harnesses light to produce an intense beam of radiation of a pure, single colour. The power of the beam can be low, as in the Laser scanner that reads the bar codes in a store, or it can be high, as in metal cutters.

Q. What is Zero Hour in Parliament?

—V. Appa Rao, Vijayawada

A. It is the time allotted in the House every day for miscellaneous business. Its duration is not specified.

Q. What is Windows 95?

—Rakesh R. Dhar, Rourkela

A. Windows 95 is the new Operating System (OS) for personal computers made

by Microsoft Corporation and released last year.

Q. How does a pager work?

—Loknath Agarwalla, Angul (Orissa)

A. A pager is one way communication system. A message is phoned to the paging service, which sends it by radio waves to the person's pager, where it is displayed.

Q. What is polio?

—Alok Kumar, Lucknow

A. Polio, or infantile paralysis, is a virus infection which affects the nerves of movement in the human body.

Q. What is Yellow Journalism?

—A.K. Mahapatra, Orissa

A. Yellow journalism is irresponsible journalism—writing about people and publishing scandalous news which are unsubstantiated.

Q. I would like to do MCA from a good institute. Please guide me about its admission.

—Vivek Kumar, Muzaffarpur (Bihar)

A. You should have an aptitude of computers if you wish to do MCA. Several institutes now offer this course. Basic eligibility is graduation. Some of the institutes are featured in our 'Admission Alert' column and you can choose one of your choice and convenience.

Q. I want to become a cricket commentator. How can I become one?

—Ozair Alam, Buxar (Bihar)

A. You must be good in presentation and your language and diction must be very good. For this, you can join an institute offering courses in media. You can start by contacting your local radio station and presenting papers/programmes for them. Gradually, you can shift to cricket commentaries.

Q. What is Computer Aided Paperless Examination System (CAPES)?

—N. Chakraborty, Kanchrapara (W.B.)

A. CAPES is a system where the student types in his answers in a computer. The questions are also displayed on the screen. In objective type questions, the computer calculates the score and displays it as soon as the examination ends.

Q. What is scientific management?

—N.N. Panda, Rayagada (Orissa)

A. Scientific management consists of rules and principles laid down in management theory. It is a well developed science now and gives several rules by which units can be managed. This is considered preferable, as against management by whims and intuition.

Q. What is the difference between hardware and software?

—M. Agarwalla, Bhubaneswar (Orissa)

A. Hardware consists of any of the physical components of a computer system—CPU, Keyboard, printer, disk drives etc. Software is the programs used to run the machine and to perform special applications.

Q. Please tell me how I can become a Company Secretary.

—Sima Das, Siliguri

A. You should join the foundation course offered by the Institute of Company Secretaries of India. For details of eligibility and how to apply, refer to our 'Admission Alert' column.

We invite readers to send us any query or question to which they have not been able to find an answer. Kindly send your question to QUESTION BOX, The Competition Master, 126, Industrial Area—1, Chandigarh—160 002.

Questions on Social and Economic Problems

Judicial Activism

Q. 'Judicial Activism in the country is good but only to a small extent.' Discuss.

Ans. During recent times, there have been many instances of active judicial intervention. This has raised questions about the degree to which judiciary can be allowed to pass judgements or give orders. Examples in recent times have been the supreme court's orders regarding garbage collection and the controversial hawala case. There have been many arguments for and against the issue.

Arguments For

It is said that the political system in the country is in a complete mess. There are situations of administrative paralysis in many areas. Executive is said to be full of a number of inadequacies as far as the functioning part is concerned. The rules and regulations, laws and procedures which are operative at present were formulated decades ago—in many cases before Independence. Besides, there is an unequal relationship between the functioning executive and the political executive. There hasn't been a satisfactory evolution of the relationship.

By and large, the government and the administration are in need of drastic reforms. Till the time the system is made more accountable, judicial activism seems to be the only hope for the common citizen. Perhaps the judicial activism can provide a jolt to the system to make the government more accountable and active.

Thus the main reason for such active involvement on the part of the judiciary is the fact that for every problem an individual faces it has become almost impossible to get a response from the concerned government department or

functionary. Aggrieved citizens thus have no alternative but to knock the doors of the courts.

Arguments Against

Judicial Activism is not a permanent solution for any problem. In the long run, it is not a practical solution. It can be only used as a last resort remedy. Moreover, it is not correct to assume that there is any legislative paralysis. There is no real paralysis. In fact, there is an abundance, an over proliferation of legislation and a practice of formulating laws and rules without considering the consequences of this proliferation.

While the judiciary has been playing a very active role in recent times, it cannot be said or assumed that the judiciary has a solution for every problem. It is immaterial that the active role is in accelerating social and ameliorative measures that should be actually taken by the executive. It is said that the problems of the society must actually be sorted out by the representatives of the people in the legislature and in politics. The masses should not be misguided by the notion that the courts are a substitute for people-oriented action.

So much for the views for and against judicial activism. What is the middle path? The general opinion is that judicial activism is a much abused word in the corridors of political power. People, in fact, take it as some kind of a dictatorship. Normally, it is said that the only limit pertains to the parameters of the Constitution. The courts have been given the power of judicial review. Besides, the court is also given the power to protect any victim of violation of fundamental rights.

Although the court attaches consid-

erable weight to the legislative assembly, it can't give up its own duty to determine the constitutionality of an infringed statute.

One cannot clearly define the areas where active judicial intervention should be allowed. Some of the possible areas are individual liberties, environment, misuse of power of State. For example, the order by the Supreme Court to close all the factories that create pollution near Taj Mahal was a welcome move. The intervention in this case was within limits of judicial review because the order left it to the technical bodies to decide which factories should be closed down. When judiciary does its duty of adjudicating on the constitutional validity of any executive action or legislation, it does not enter the arena of politics but merely performs its duty.

Whatever be the arguments, the fact is that there is an increasing role of the judiciary these days. Apparently, it is because of an urgent need to "cleanse" the system. In this case, it becomes imperative to also review our laws, rules and regulations and the working of our executive and legislation.

Political Donations

Q. In recent times, there has been talk about making political donations transparent. Suggestions include increasing of accountability of political parties and State financing of elections. Discuss the issue.

Ans. The general opinion is that the recent hawala case has brought the issue of funding of elections into the forefront. There are various aspects related to this issue.

First, should corporate donations be

directed towards individual politicians or be limited to political parties? One view is that when donations are given to individual politicians there can be no surety that these would be used for activities connected to a political party. In such cases, one cannot say that donations should be given to individuals. Therefore, it has been suggested that these donations be towards the party as a whole. Perhaps every party can have some proper mechanism through which this money is received.

The important thing here is that if parties are to be allowed to take donations there should be some system of accountability on the part of the parties. This can be achieved by auditing party accounts. Besides ensuring accountability, this also means that there is total transparency as far as the funding is concerned. Transparency perhaps is the most important word here. No money should be left unaccounted.

The other important aspect related to the donations is that of a bar against any *quid pro quo*. That is, there should be sufficient checks to see that no favours are granted for the corporation that is giving the funds. When there is accountability, and if all fund records are made available to the public. Besides, corporations should give donations subject to approval by the board and perhaps even by the important shareholders.

Once we have discussed about whether donations should be given and how they should be channelised, the question arises whether such donations would be considered bribes or not. The problem arises only if there is non-transparency of the funding. In such cases, when everything is done in a clandestine manner, the seeds of corruption are sown. All political donations are therefore not bribes. These are allowed under the Companies Act—even procedures for this are laid down. Some people have suggested that the State can play a role here. One possibility is that the State give incentives to companies if they want to give money to political parties—may be some tax relief. Besides, there should be some limit on the amount that a corporation can give

to a political party. Also, an all-party committee can be set up to frame a policy—with all procedural details and draft legislations—regarding contributions to political parties.

The third important issue is the question regarding State funding of elections to avoid any problem in this regard. Is this kind of an arrangement feasible at all? It is said that State funding would reduce the temptation of parties and politicians to receive secret donations. Some people do allege that State funding would increase the problem of fiscal deficit. The other view is that fiscal deficit is already there and can be reduced by cutting down subsidies or through privatisation of public sector undertakings. State funding can actually help and prove to be good for the country. However, it is difficult to achieve in a parliamentary system. Even a disciplined country like Japan has experienced funding scams quite often. Korea and Italy have faced similar problems. A large number of people are of the opinion that State funding is not easy or simple to attain. Many politicians are also cynical about State funding. They say that there are a number of other factors that are responsible for the increasing corruption in the country. Many agree that the loopholes in electoral laws are responsible for the increase in money power—in fact, this seems to be a consensus amongst numerous people coming from different walks of life.

In 1990, there was a Dinesh Goswami report on State funding which has still not been implemented. Is there any solution to this problem? Perhaps one can have a whole, independent debate on the issue of State funding itself, covering various matters of concern—would independents also benefit or would they have to rely on individuals? Does the government have the time to implement any change regarding this problem during the next elections too?

Whatever be the variety of opinions the fact is that corruption has come to be deep seated in society and money power has become too important to all. In this light, perhaps, we should all get together to look at ways of channelising donations properly so that there is no secrecy or, no

act done in a clandestine manner.

Are Career Women a Boon?

Q. The winds of change have opened vast opportunities for employment of women who are entering the various professions. Do you agree with the view that this trend is both socially and economically a healthy one?

Ans. For centuries there was a deep-rooted prejudice in India against women taking up employment and becoming earning members of the family. Men have all along believed that the proper place for every woman is the home. The concept of women expounded in *Manusmriti*, that a woman has to be all her life under the domination and control of her father, her husband or her son, was given a practical shape almost throughout the country. Slavery and domestic drudgery have been her lot, but during the past two or three decades the entire outlook has changed. There has been a notable improvement in women's status. We find more and more women entering the professions and working side by side with men, more or less on the same terms and in the same conditions, without demanding special privileges or concessions. But are women in the professions an asset to society and is this practice for the country's good?

Arguments For

1. It is something to be thankful for that women are no longer oppressed and that they have been liberated and now enjoy equal status with men. It is no longer a surprise to see women working as lawyers, civil servants, legislators, Ministers, lecturers and even Vice-chancellors of universities. No longer is every woman a house-hold drudge.

2. In the context of stark poverty that is noticeable in most parts of the country, it is surely desirable that women should supplement the family income. With the cost of living and of feeding and educating children becoming high, an average employee finds it difficult to manage with his limited salary. Educated women in particular can do a lot for the family by

taking up part-time or whole-time service.

3. True, the Indian tradition was to confine the women to the home and to make her look only after her domestic responsibilities to exclusion of everything else. But in the changed times such obsolete traditions have no place. We are no longer living in ancient times or in the middle ages, but in the 20th century and must modify our psychological approach towards women in tune with the times. Those who still think of women as chattels are misfits in modern society.

4. Work is life and happiness. With smaller families which are now the order of the day, women have more leisure. Why should they not use it fruitfully instead of sitting idle at home and wasting time in gossip?

5. There are certain professions which are especially suited to women, such as those of doctors, nurses and teachers. If they can enter these professions, why not the others where also they can do useful work, help to augment production and also the family income? Such jobs and the earnings will help remove the feelings of subjugation and encourage the sense of independence among women.

Arguments Against Career Women

1. Women, as a rule, are not suitable for adopting men's pursuits which do not fit their physique. Women, especially married women, have enough scope for work at home, attending to their duties and heavy responsibilities which they alone can discharge.

2. The absence of women from home leads to total neglect of the children and also of the husband. Social researchers have found that the rise in juvenile delinquency, crimes by young boys, is caused largely by the absence of mothers from home.

3. Domestic unhappiness is at times the result of married women remaining in offices throughout the day, feeling the strain of office and of domestic work later. Women then become fatigued, worn out, nervous and highly irritable after a period of service. After all, family life is a more enduring basis of prosperity and happiness. Women employees get no time for healthy activity, rest and relaxation. This is bound to affect their health.

4. The argument that the idle hours of women at home are a national waste, loses its validity when it is borne in mind that even by staying at home, apart from ensuring good care of the children, etc; and maintaining the household, they can engage themselves in gainful work—spinning, weaving, embroidery, stitching and art work which can bring some income if the women are so inclined.

5. The entry of women in the services and the increasing competition between men and women in the employment market has resulted in denial of jobs to qualified men, thus creating social distortions. This is one of the causes of the growing unemployment.

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"Laughter makes man different from other species."

The faculty to laugh even in the midst of trials and tribulations enables man to rid himself of emotional stress and physical strain. Unlike other species, which possess no such safety valve to release their pain and suffering, human beings have been endowed with the golden gift of laughter that can be used to relieve oneself of tension and trauma. Whether alone or in company, one can experience the withering way of woe and worry in the peals of laughter. There is no gainsaying the fact that laughter is such a natural and spontaneous expression of joy as enhances our confidence and brings radiance on our faces. It is a tonic that stands us in good stead. Laughter costs nothing but it brings sunshine on the faces of all those who laugh and share their laughter with others. It is the most rewarding medium of giving expression to our heart-felt joy at a given moment. Laughter drowns the grumbling sounds and the complaining whispers that mar the course of life. It stands higher than many other faculties of human existence. Without laughter, the spring of life is insipid and uninspiring.

"The foolish achieve success, the worthy glory."

—Tagore

Achievement of success is the personal possession of an individual, whereas the halo of glory around a worthy person is the recognition of the services and sacrifice that he has made in the pursuit of a cause. Success inflates the ego of the foolish but glory testifies to the intrinsic worth of a person, who conceives and perceives

the lofty goal and works with heart and soul to accomplish the cherished ideal. No doubt (that) both success and glory are the result of relentless efforts but, whereas, success brings a sense of sensuous elation and excitement, glory makes the worthy more committed to his conviction. Since we do not live by bread alone and the achievement of worldly success is not the 'be all and end all' of life, something more glorious and lasting is always needed to make our existence purposeful and profound. The worthy person knows that the best reward that life can give is not the accumulation of material gains but a feeling or realisation that we have lived and worked for the common good. Just as the brave deserve the fair, similarly men of dignity and distinction merit glory.

"To a man with an empty stomach food is God."

—Mahatma Gandhi

The saying that a hungry man is an angry man comes close to the bitter reality that to a man with an empty stomach, a food packet placed before him is God. When asked to add 'two plus two' a hungry man spontaneously replies 'four loaves or chapatis'. No amount of persuasion or coercion can make a hungry man sing hymns in praise of God. Hunger, whether forced or voluntary, is the greatest irritant and unless we put something into the stomach, there is no rest or respite that we can experience. Since ages man has been engaged in the fields to produce various articles of food and all his prayers and other rituals to appease and propitiate gods and goddesses have been associated with the fate of his

crops and their final yield. A hungry man, needless to reiterate, is always in a state of unease and to expect that he should remember the God and forget about his starving condition, is to miss the whole point of what is relevant at a given point of time. In fact no worthwhile activity is possible unless hunger is properly looked after.

"Ideas have endurance without death."

—John F. Kennedy

Ideas have always enjoyed an existence of their own and since they are born out of human thought, they have a tendency to refresh themselves in every age and clime. Unlike their proponents—rather thinkers who conceive ideas and float them among people of less intense perceptions and profundity—the endurance with which ideas weather many a storm or opposition, is something that has kept the waters of human civilisation and culture clean and self-perpetuating. Men may come and men may go, but ideas that have always moved the world, keep surviving every onslaught. It is the ideas and not ideology, the idealist and not the ideologue, who have changed the course of history and blessed it with those rare gems in human garb who stood against the follies and foibles of the ruthless rulers, fanatics and lunatics. Life without ideas, old or new, would have been an arid landscape devoid of all thrill and throbbing of joy. Whenever an effort to trample ideas or kill idealism has been made, the miscreant and the mischiefmonger, has faced the futility of his misconceived actions because ideas have a life of their own, beyond the purview of death or destruction.

General Studies Scene

Q. 1. What are the general features of amending Indian Constitution? What is the procedure prescribed to do so? Can Indian Constitution be termed as a "flexible Constitution"?

Ans. Indian Constitution has certain special features for its amendment which makes it unique among the leading constitutions of the world. Some of its amending features are clearly distinctive when compared with the corresponding features of several other constitutions. In some cases the Constitution provides for a special majority and the procedure may be called rigid in constitutions like that of the USA. The following are the general features of amending Indian Constitution:

(a) Indian Constitution does not prescribe any special or separate Constitution amending body, as in case of certain other constitutions. Except for the special procedure laid down in Article 368, the Parliament is competent to amend the Constitution.

(b) The State Legislatures have no power to introduce or initiate any bill or proposal for amending the Constitution, which can only be done by introducing a bill in either of the Houses of the Parliament.

(c) No previous sanction is required from the President to introduce any amendment or Bill for amendment in any House of the Parliament.

(d) Several categories of amendment bills, passed by the Parliament needs ratification by not less than half of the State Legislatures while the American Constitution requires ratification by not less than three-fourth of them.

(e) Consequent upon a change introduced in Article 368 of the Constitution vide 24th Amendment, a Constitution amendment when presented to the President for assent, it has been made obligatory for the President to give his assent and his discretion to withhold it has been withdrawn.

(f) Subject to the provisions of Article 368, amendment bills are passed by the Parliament in the same way as ordinary bills, but for special majority prescribed. The procedure of a joint session available for passing ordinary bills, however, is not applicable to the amendment bills.

The Constitution provides a special procedure for amending it. A bill can be introduced in any of the Houses and has to be passed by more than 50 per cent of the total membership of that House and by a majority not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting. Thereafter the bill is sent to the President for assent. However, in case the amendment is directed at certain specific Articles including 54, 55, 73, 162, 241, 80, 81 and 368, such amendment would also be required to be ratified

by not less than half of the State Legislatures.

It is, at times debated whether or not Indian Constitution be termed as a "flexible Constitution". The basic philosophy behind the amending procedure is that the procedure should not be so rigid as resulting in being non-responsive to the needed changes with time. The Constitution must be flexible enough to facilitate incorporation of required changes from time to time. It was further argued that all those recommending a change would have to mobilise two-third majority in the Parliament and all those who were unable to do so, had no moral right to think of amending the given provisions of the Constitution. The framers of the Constitution had to strike a delicate balance between two factors—the federal nature of the Constitution which needed a rigid Constitution, and supremacy of the Parliament where the Parliament could, if required, effect changes in the provisions of the Constitution. The Constitution, therefore, provides for a healthy blend of rigidity and flexibility in the amendment procedure, as a result, the Constitution can be classified as flexible with respect to certain provisions and rigid with respect to the others.

Q. 2. Critically examine the policy of education followed by the British. Bring out the weaknesses of the British education system in India prior to independence.

Ans. The British Government took several measures to spread the education, particularly the modern education in India. The efforts of the British were supported actively by several missionaries and a large number of enlightened Indians. But during the initial stages of the British rule, the British Government hardly took any interest. It was only in the year 1835 that Lord Macaulay, who was the Law Member of the Governor General's Council, advocated the teaching of English Language and further studies in English medium. It was argued by him that the Indian languages were not developed enough to facilitate teaching science, literature and other such subjects. Although the views of Lord Macaulay were marred by his prejudice against Indian languages and his lack of knowledge of Indian past and developments in science and mathematics which took place in India in ancient times, yet he could convince the British Government in this regard. He also held the view that European knowledge in the fields of physical and social sciences was superior to the existing Indian knowledge. Several forward looking Indians like Raja Ram Mohan Roy were also convinced with the British point of view and advocated the learning of western knowledge in English medium. Even the Indians were also convinced that the contemporary Indian knowledge unfortunately bred supersti-

tion and fear, and also lacked in several aspects. It is also felt that it was this feeling and belief of the Indians and their anxiety to gain western knowledge that kept continuous pressure on the Government to pursue the spread of modern education.

The process of spread of education was initiated from Bengal. To start with, rather than opening elementary schools for the masses, the British Government opened a few English schools and colleges and other institutions of higher and modern education. The total funds spent by the Government were very less and it decided to educate only a few Indians from the upper and middle classes who were, in turn, expected to educate the common masses. This, however, did not happen and the modern learning failed to trickle down to the masses. However, modern ideas of democracy, nationalism, equality, liberties and anti-imperialism could reach the masses in which more than education, press played a major role. In the year 1854, Sir Charles Wood despatched some documents from the Court of Directors, which asked the Government of India to assume the responsibility for educating the masses. In compliance with the instructions contained in the "Wood's Despatch", departments of education were opened in all the provinces and in 1857, universities were set up at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras.

The education policy of the British had several weaknesses. As has been pointed out earlier, no effort was made by the Government to educate the masses. This job was left to the missionaries, progressive Indians and other Englishmen. Moreover, the modern and higher education offered by the British was too expensive to be offered to the common man. Main aim of their policy appeared to be to get cheap supply of educated Indians to fill up the lower and subordinate posts in the administration. This was one of the reasons that the British Government insisted on English language as medium of instruction. Another dubious aim of the British to introduce the English language in India was to broaden the Indian market for the modern manufactured products in Britain. Further, they wanted to strengthen their political authority in India. As a result of these efforts, only a selected few got the education and in 1911, the literacy rate was just 6 per cent. This rate for women in 1921 was just two per cent. The main reason was that the Government was not interested at all to spend significant amount of funds on education and were satisfied so long as the objectives of the British Government were met.

Q. 3. What is the Minimum Needs Programme? What have been the achievements under this programme so far?

Ans. The Minimum Needs Programmes (MNP) was introduced during the Fifth Five Year Plan with the objective of providing certain items of social consumption which formed an integral part of the basic needs of the population living in the rural areas. Initially, the Fifth Plan identified and included eight components of elementary education, rural health, rural water supply, rural roads, rural electrification, rural housing environmental improvement of urban slums and nutrition. During the Sixth Plan, adult education was added and during the Seventh

Plan, the total number of components was raised to 12 by adding rural domestic energy, rural sanitation and public distribution system.

The performance and achievements in the MNP have been satisfactory so far. Upto the end of Seventh Five Year Plan, over 90 per cent of the children were enrolled and had access to schools. There also has been a steady rise in the literacy rate after taking in to account the drop outs. There has been a good progress in the field of rural health also. Even under providing safe drinking water in the rural areas, the aim is to provide at least 40 litres of potable water per capita per day. In case of rural domestic energy, lack of coordination between the fuel wood and improved *chullah*, stoves etc was identified as the main constraint. The targets for electrification of rural areas have also been, by and large, achieved. The Eighth Plan, however, shifted the focus from mere targetting to achieving qualitative results.

There are, however, certain glaring inter-State disparities which are aimed to be removed during the current Five Year Plan. For example, literacy rate is as low as 38 per cent in the States of Bihar and Rajasthan, while it is around 99 per cent in Kerala. The need, therefore, is to reduce the difference in the literacy rate among various States. Similarly, by the end of Seventh Plan, all India average death rate was 11.9 per thousand but in States like U.P. and Bihar this rate was above 13.5 per thousand. Infant mortality rate was 26 per thousand in Kerala, while it was as high as 135 in U.P. Similar disparity was found in the Birth Rate which was as low as 19.4 per thousand in Goa while it was 39.2 in U.P. The achievement in the field of rural roads has been satisfactory and as per the Eighth Plan document, only 10 per cent of the villages with the population more than 1500 remain unconnected with roads. But in States like Mizoram, West Bengal and Bihar, this proportion was quite high. Attention under the MNP, thus needs to be given to ensure that these inter-State variations are removed.

The government is providing certain additional funds to the States which are lagging behind. The planning and execution of these programmes under the MNP have been integrated with the on-going rural development programmes, with every district as an independent unit of planning. In addition to the above programmes, the funds are also provided for the allied activities like street lighting, primary school building, hand pumps, bio-gas, fish ponds, social forestry etc. With the growing realisation about the necessity of these essential facilities in the rural areas, it is expected that by the end of Eighth Plan in 1997, significant achievements would be registered in all 12 programmes under the MNP. All these programmes are also strengthened by usual budget allocations through the concerned departments. Inter-State disparities have adequately been attended to during the Eighth Plan, which would not only result in reducing these disparities adequately, but would also ensure better target achievement both at the State as well as at the national level. It is only after providing these minimum needs that one can think of achieving sustainable long-term economic development.

Descriptive Questions

BSRB Bangalore Clerical Exam held on October 15, 1995

Problems and Political Parties

Q. Some people feel that political parties colour every incident or problem to meet their own ends. Explain your views in this regard. Substantiate your views by giving examples, instances from your reading, experience and knowledge.

Ans. In a functioning democracy, if there is no dearth of problems or unsavoury incidents. On the other hand political parties are always ready to politicise each incident or problem to meet their own ends. In fact, political parties in all democracies are always on the look out for an issue that they can exploit to the hilt and put the government of the day on the mat. Without going into the merits and demerits of their approach to the problem or event, they are too eager to let go any opportunity untapped—rather unexploited for their electoral advantage.

For most political parties, problems or incidents offer short-cuts to grab political power or embarrass the 'power-that-be'. Such an attitude is not confined to the perceptions and proclivities of opposition parties alone. When the roles reverse, the ruling party or parties (if there is a coalition government) of yesteryears miss no opportunity to capitalise on any minor or major incident.

Whether the incident or the problem is the result of some natural or man-made calamity, political parties start to vie with each other to derive maximum mileage out of the sordid situation. They leave no stone unturned to tarnish the image of the ruling party and the administration and care a fig for the relief and rehabilitation measures under way. For them, grinding their own axe, even in an hour of grave human suffering, is their first and foremost priority. For every tragedy that strikes, they are ever ready to harass and harm the already 'beleaguered ruling party' and its interests.

Whether the incident relates to the naming or renaming of a University, Institution or the enhancement of tuition fees, political parties are seldom found wanting, not to jump into the fray and make mountain of a mole hill. They never care for the foul fallout that their short-sighted actions can result in and the scars that can develop on the psyche of the common people.

Again, whether the incident or problem is the resultant of police firing on a rampaging mob or the sudden revelation of a scandal or scam, they are more than ever prepared to make every issue sensational and nerve-breaking. Sharing of river waters or adjustment of boundaries between States are such other problems as offer a ready-made fodder or fuel to the political parties. All said and done, it seems from the *modus operandi* of political parties that giving a political colour to each incident or problem is the 'be all and end all' of their day-to-day practices and pre-occupations.

Reducing Wastage of Electricity

Q. Suggest three effective measures to reduce wastage of electricity being used for household purposes. Explain how the measures suggested by you would be helpful.

Ans. Since electricity occupies a paramount place in the lives of all, its relevance and requirement in every aspect of life, is of utmost importance. Just as sunshine without warmth is an unthinkable phenomenon, in the same vein, the non-availability of electricity for all occasions and purposes is an unbearable reality of life. There is no denying the fact that if we mean business and are determined to keep the wheels of production moving without interruption or avoidable hiccups, the wastage of electricity at

every level has to be reduced—rather eliminated. The following measures, if adopted scrupulously and sincerely, can go a long way in reducing the wastage of electricity.

Quite often, small steps can lead to significant results. Each unit saved by the household users of electricity can contribute a lot to the total saving of electric power. With prudence and right perceptions, the householders can save electricity without causing much inconvenience or discomfort to their day-to-day schedule. The householders should exercise restraint and restriction on the unnecessary use of electricity. They can switch off those lights and fans which are not needed and try to adjust their daily chores at one place or under one roof. Instead of bulbs, they should go in for fluorescent lamps (tubes) because the latter are more soothing as well as economical. As far as possible, they should use such electric gadgets as are of standard quality.

Domestic consumers should also get their dead or defective meters replaced with the new ones, after getting them properly checked or tested by the appropriate authority. The tendency to over-use electricity when the meter is dead, is both unethical as well as unhealthy. The temptation to keep all the lights on when not required and use electric gadgets or appliances for minor jobs, should be avoided.

Conspicuous consumerism in other areas of spending and acquiring goods and services may be good for the market-economy but an excessive use of electricity for every conceivable function in the family can have a crippling effect on the power sector. Pompous show of one's wealth by indulging in dazzling decorations, can result in total darkness or partial black-out, because of load-shedding or power failure due to unnecessary load on power lines or transformers. In view of the seriousness of

the problem, the house-holders have a special responsibility to save electricity for its better and more productive use elsewhere.

Curtailment of State governments' autonomy

Q. "The autonomy of the State Governments should be curtailed so that India will emerge as a strong nation." Give two arguments in favour and two against this statement.

Arguments for the Statement

1. Indian history bears an eloquent testimony to the fearful fact that whenever the Indian States became more independent and assertive, the Indian nation became weak and vulnerable. Autonomy of native States, whatever its contents and contours, made them defiant and as a result of their arrogance, the country as a whole fell victim to the evil designs of invaders and traders-cum-rulers. It needs no reiteration to state the bare facts of Indian history that the strength of native states did not necessarily mean a strong and united India. Had the Centre been weak or the union of States been on the model of the erstwhile Soviet Union, the country would have, more or less, broken into warring States. Hence, any talk of more autonomy to the States is fraught with dangers and no one in his senses can advocate such a course.

2. Under the Constitution, the Indian States are vested with enough powers and any suggestion or demand that they should get more autonomy at the cost of a strong central authority, is playing to the gallery only. Recent events relating to the distribution and utilisation of inter-State river waters have shown that had the States concerned been less rigid and more considerate, the impasse over the issue would not have become so intractable. Same is the fate of the adjustment of boundaries and movement of people from one State to the other in search of jobs. The need of the hour is that in certain matters affecting the unity and welfare of people at large, the autonomy of the State governments should be curtailed and the strong will of nation allowed to prevail.

Arguments against the Statement

1. Those who are crying hoarse that the State governments' autonomy should be curtailed, should not fail to bear in mind that the problems of terrorism, insurgency and the like, are the result of political expediency. Had the Indian States been given real autonomy and adequate sources of revenue to implement welfare schemes, much of the bitterness and distrust would not have arisen at all.

2. Any curtailment of State governments' autonomy is the negation and repudiation of the Constitution which clearly states that India is a federation of States with sufficient economic and political powers. The philosophy that strong India means strong States is not a utopia or the figment of imagination. It is a reality that needs to be given a fair trial and treatment by one and all.

Youth and nation-building

Q. Let every youth decide to give three years of his/her life for nation-building. Give three important consequences if such a situation arises.

Ans. Youth is a period of faith and fervour, ambition and adventure, innovation and idealism. Guided by the wisdom and experience of the elders, youth has always remained in the vanguard of all movements in the history of the world. Without being offered any profit or reward, Indian youth was the moving spirit during the war of independence and even afterwards, whenever the country called upon it to uphold its honour. In almost every walk of life, it is the youth that carries the credit of heralding a new era or movement, in art and literature, inventions and discoveries, exploration and exploitation of natural resources. In a situation in which we find ourselves today, if every youth of this country decides to give three years of his/her life for nation-building, the consequences of such a voluntary valour and epoch-making decision would be far-reaching and highly inspiring for the generations to come.

Even after nearly five decades of Independence, India is beset with monumental problems of poverty, illiteracy,

ignorance on the one hand, exploitation of children and women on the other. Most of the ills that afflict a backward or developing country keep staring us in the face and despite massive investment of men and material resources, the scenario on some vital socio-economic fronts remains dismal and disturbing. In case the youth of this country offers its services in the various vistas of nation-building, the pathetic picture that we have of our people and places would undergo a sea change before the turn of this century. In case the educated youth of India takes upon itself the responsibility of educating the illiterates of all ages, the result would be complete eradication of illiteracy. Coupled with this objective would be the elimination of ignorance, superstitions and other irrational beliefs that have kept the Indian masses under their cruel jaws and claws for centuries.

Along with the removal of illiteracy, the youth can offer its services in the field of primary health, hygiene sanitation, and environment especially in the countryside, slums and shanties. The message of 'cleanliness is next to godliness' can best be conveyed by the youth with their exuberant energy and selfless service. Their contribution in enlarging and executing various plans in social-services sectors and ecology can bring about marvellous results because their actions would be backed by their commitment to a great cause of nation-building. The really enlightened and conscientious among them can work among the drug-addicts, derelicts, and even militants and bring them back to the main-stream of life.

The Indian youth, by giving three years of their life for nation-building activities, can also rid themselves of the nagging evils like 'unrest', 'violence', frustration, alienation and the like and give proper shape and direction to their own lives. Having worked with their less fortunate country-men, they can see the real face of India and feel a sense of identification and affinity with them. The resolve of the Indian youth to work for the goal of 'nation-building' for three years, is a revolutionary step with considerable, constructive and creative consequences.

Quantitative Aptitude

1. The quad. polynomial in x whose zeros are a and $2a$ is:

- (a) $(x + a)(x - 2a)$ (b) $(x - a)(x + 2a)$
(c) $(x + a)(x + 2a)$ (d) $(x - a)(x - 2a)$

2. Which one of the following should be added to $25p^2 + 16q^2$ so that the resulting sum becomes a perfect square?

- (a) $20pq$ (b) $30pq$ (c) $40pq$ (d) $50p^2q^2$

3. The no. of divisors of 20 excluding 1 are:

- (a) 4 (b) 5 (c) 6 (d) 7

4. If $x^3 + 5x^2 + 10k$ leaves remainder $-2x$ when divided by $x^2 + 2$, then the value of k is:

- (a) -2 (b) -1 (c) 1 (d) 2

5. If $(x - 2)$ is a factor of $x^3 - kx + 6$ then the value of k is

- (a) -1 (b) 2 (c) 7 (d) 8

6. The solution to the system of equations

$$|x + y| = 1, x - y = 0 \text{ is given by:}$$

- (a) $x = y = \frac{1}{2}$ (b) $x = y = -\frac{1}{2}$
(c) $x = 1, y = 0$ (d) $x = y = \frac{1}{2}$ or $x = y = -\frac{1}{2}$

7. The sum of digits of a two-digit number is 15. If 9 is added to the number, the digits are reversed. The number is

- (a) 96 (b) 87 (c) 78 (d) 69

8. The roots of the equation

$$(q - r)x^2 + (r - p)x + (p - q) = 0 \text{ are:}$$

- (a) $\frac{r-p}{q-r}, 1$ (b) $\frac{p-q}{q-r}, 1$ (c) $\frac{q-r}{p-q}, 1$ (d) $\frac{r-p}{p-q}, 1$

9. An equation equivalent to the quadratic equation $x^2 - 6x + 5 = 0$ is:

- (a) $6x^2 - 5x + 1 = 0$ (b) $x^2 - 5x + 6 = 0$
(c) $5x^2 - 6x + 1 = 0$ (d) $|x - 3| = 2$

10. The positive value of m for which the roots of the equation $12x^2 + mx + 5 = 0$ are in the ratio 3 : 2 is:

- (a) $5\sqrt{10}$ (b) $\frac{5}{12}\sqrt{10}$ (c) $\frac{5}{12}$ (d) $\frac{12}{5}$

11. The A.M. between two numbers is 10 and their G.M. is 8. The nos. are:

- (a) 20, 5 (b) 16, 4 (c) 15, 5 (d) 12, 8

12. If $\sqrt{0.04 \times 0.4 \times a} = 0.4 \times 0.04 \times \sqrt{b}$ then $\frac{a}{b}$ is:

- (a) 0.016 (b) 0.16 (c) 1.00 (d) 16

13. If Rs 8000 amounts to Rs 10648 in 3 years at C.I., the rate of interest p.a. is:

- (a) 8% (b) 9% (c) 10% (d) 12%

14. If the areas of 3 adjacent sides of a cuboid are a, b, c , then the volume of the cuboid is:

- (a) \sqrt{abc} (b) abc (c) $a^2b^2c^2$
(d) $a^2 + b^2 + c^2$

15. An aeroplane travels distances 2500 km, 1200 km, 500 km at the rates of 500 km/hr, 400 km/hr and 250 km/hr respectively, then average speed is:

- (a) 420 km/hr (b) 410 km/hr
(c) 405 km/hr (d) 572 km/hr

16. If p is the value of $\sin^2 20^\circ + \sin^2 40^\circ + \sin^2 50^\circ + \sin^2 70^\circ$ then:

- (a) $0 < p < 1$ (b) $1 < p < 1.5$ (c) $1.5 < p < 2$
(d) $p = 2$

17. If $\tan \theta = \frac{\cos 90^\circ + \sin 90^\circ}{\cos 90^\circ - \sin 90^\circ}$ then θ is equal to:

- (a) 9° (b) 18° (c) 36° (d) 54°

18. If one angle of cyclic trapezium is triple of the other then the measure of greater angle is:

- (a) 90° (b) 105° (c) 120° (d) 135°

19. In a cylindrical jar of diameter 10 cm, 4 spherical iron balls are put. The diameter of each ball is 2 cm. The depth of water in the jar is 12 cm. Find the increase in level of water.

- (a) 0.6 cm (b) 3 cm (c) $\frac{16}{75}$ cm (d) $\frac{75}{16}$ cm

20. Out of 3 numbers, the second is double the first, but thrice of the third. If the average of the three numbers is 44, what is the lowest number?

- (a) 72 (b) 36 (c) 24 (d) 108

21. In an examination 52% and 40% candidates failed in science and maths respectively. If 27% candidates failed in both the subjects, the percentage of candidates passing the examination is:

- (a) 35 (b) 48 (c) 60 (d) 65

22. If in a mixture of milk and water, the ratio of milk and water is 3 : 1. If four litres of water is added to the mixture, the amount of milk and water in the mixture becomes equal. The quantity of milk in the mixture is:

- (a) 18 litres (b) 12 litres
(c) 4 litres (d) 6 litres

23. 25 men with 10 boys can do a piece of work in 6 days, 21 men and 30 boys can do the same work in 5 days. How many boys must help 40 men to do the same work in 4 days?

- (a) 10 (b) 40 (c) 30 (d) 5

24. A shopkeeper makes a profit of 20% even after giving a discount of 10% on the marked price of an article. If

the marked price of an article is Rs 500, the C P is

- (a) Rs 475 (b) Rs 425 (c) Rs 375
(d) Rs 350

25 If $(\frac{7}{8})^4 \times (\frac{7}{8})^5 = (\frac{7}{8})^{2m+7}$ then $m = ?$

- (a) 4 (b) 5 (c) 3 (d) 8

26 A man takes 6 hours and 45 minutes in walking to a certain distance and riding back. He would have gained 3 hours by riding both ways. How long would he take to walk both ways?

- (a) 9 hours 45 minutes (b) 8 hours
(c) 10 hours 30 minutes (d) 7 hours

27 The population of a town increases by 5% annually and its present population is 138915. What was it 3 years ago?

- (a) 150000 (b) 120000 (c) 135000
(d) 147900

28 A, B and C together earn Rs 2900 and spend 60%, 65% and 70% of their salaries respectively. If their savings are Rs 14, 21, 15 find the salary of B.

- (a) Rs 1000 (b) Rs 1350 (c) Rs 1200
(d) Rs 1500

29 A sum of money is put out at C I for 2 years at 20 p a. It would fetch Rs 482 more if the interest were payable half yearly. Find the sum.

- (a) Rs 2400 (b) Rs 1900
(c) Rs 2000 (d) Rs 1750

30 Three equal glasses are filled with a mixture of alcohol and water. The ratio of alcohol to water in each glass is as follows: in the first glass as 2 : 3, in the second glass as 3 : 4, in the third glass as 4 : 5. The contents of the three glasses are emptied into a single vessel. What is the ratio of alcohol and water in it?

- (a) 401 : 544 (b) 351 : 432 (c) 2 : 1
(d) 2 : 5

31 If $a^2 = b^3 = c^5 = d^6$ what is the value of $\log_d abc$?

- (a) 5 (b) 1 (c) 2 (d) $6\frac{1}{5}$

32 Find the square root of $\frac{(\frac{3}{4})^4 - (\frac{4}{3})^4}{(\frac{3}{4})^2 - (\frac{4}{3})^2}$

- (a) $6\frac{5}{12}$ (b) $6\frac{7}{12}$ (c) 1 (d) $5\frac{5}{12}$

33 Two numbers when divided by a certain divisor give remainders 1209 and 703 respectively. When their sum is divided by the same divisor, the remainder is 901. Find the divisor.

- (a) 1011 (b) 1111 (c) 1131 (d) 1001

34 Find the square root of $\frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{2-\sqrt{3}}$ upto 3 places of decimals, given that $\sqrt{3} = 1.732$

- (a) 3.732 (b) 4.732 (c) 5.732
(d) 5.332

35 Evaluate $\frac{\frac{4}{5} \div \frac{7}{15} \text{ of } \frac{8}{9}}{\frac{4}{5} \div \frac{7}{15} \times \frac{8}{9}}$

- (a) 1 (b) $\frac{1}{2}$ (c) $1\frac{17}{64}$ (d) $Rs 4\frac{2}{3}$

36 A child saves Re 1 on 1st Jan 1990 and continues to save a rupee more than the previous one. How much shall he have by the end of the year?

- (a) 66795 (b) 50075 (c) 60095
(d) 75000

37 A man sells an article at a gain of 15%. If he had bought it at 10% less and sold it for Rs 4 less, he would have gained 25%. Find C P.

- (a) Rs 150 (b) Rs 146 (c) Rs 160 (d) Rs 200

38 The perimeter of a circular plot is equal to that of a square plot. What is the ratio of their respective areas?

- (a) 14 : 11 (b) 11 : 14 (c) 7 : 6 (d) 6 : 7

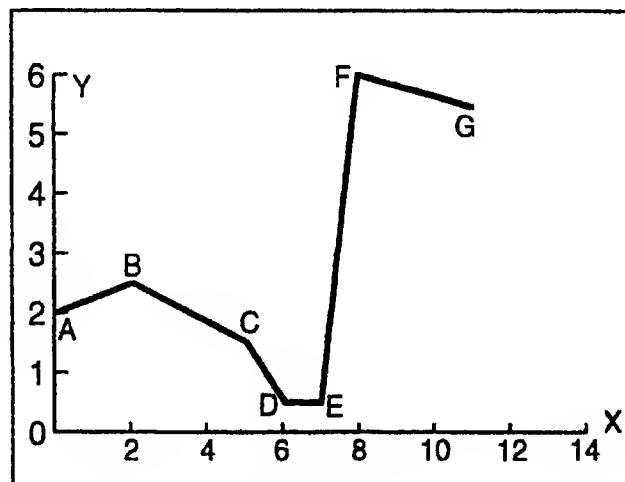
39 What is the length of sheet 2 m wide required for making an open tank 15 m long, 10 m wide and 6 m deep?

- (a) 175 m (b) 225 m
(c) 165 m (d) 272 m

40 Two nos. are in the ratio of 3 : 5. If 9 be subtracted from each, then they are in the ratio of 12 : 23. Find the second number.

- (a) 55 (b) 45 (c) 76 (d) 32

41-45 Study the graph carefully and answer the following questions.



41 What is the slope of line CD?

- (a) -1 (b) $\frac{2}{5}$ (c) 3 (d) 1.25
(e) None of these

42 If the line BC is continued uninterrupted, it will meet x-axis at

- (a) (8, 0) (b) (5, 0) (c) (7, 0)
(d) (9, 0) (e) None of these

43 Which of the two lines are equal?

- (a) BC, FG (b) CD, DE (c) AB, BC
(d) AB, FG (e) None of these

44 What is the area under the curve ABCDEFG?

- (a) 31.75 (b) 28.95 (c) 26.50
(d) 23.02 (e) None of these

45 The ratio of area under EFG and area under ABCD

- (a) 79/46 (b) 46/79 (c) 2/3
(d) 3/5 (e) None of these

46-50. Study the following table carefully and answer the questions based on it:

Registrations of new vehicles in Delhi (in thousands)

Months	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June
Scooters	35	30	18	35	28	40
Total Vehicles	60	54	36	42	38	48

46 What was the difference between the number of scooters registered in Feb and May?

- (a) 2000 (b) 3000 (c) 5000
(d) No difference

47 What was the percentage increase in registration from Jan to June?

- (a) 15% (b) 14.28% (c) 13.2%
(d) None of these

48 In which of the following months was the registration of vehicles other than scooters maximum?

- (a) Jan (b) March (c) Feb
(d) May

49 What was the ratio of the number of scooters and the number of other vehicles registered in June?

- (a) 5/6 (b) 6/5 (c) 5/1 (d) 1/5

50 What was the number of vehicles other than scooter registered in April?

- (a) 7000 (b) 54000 (c) 77000
(d) 5000

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1 (d)

2 (c) $25p^2 + 16q^2 = (5p)^2 + (4q)^2$

$$a^2 + 2ab + b^2 = (a+b)^2 \quad \text{The reqd term is}$$

$$2 \times 5p \times 4q = 40pq$$

3 (b) Divisors of 20 are 2, 4, 5, 10, 20 (Excluding 1)

4 (c) On dividing $x^3 + 5x^2 + 10x$ by $x^2 + 2$, we get remainder

$$= -2x + 10x - 10 \quad \text{But remainder} = -2x$$

$$-2x + 10x - 10 = -2x \quad k = 1$$

5 (c) If $x - 2$ is a factor of $p(x) = x^3 - kx + 6$ $p(2) = 0$

$$2^3 - k \times 2 + 6 = 0 \text{ or } k = 7$$

6 (d) $|x + y| = 1 \quad x + y = +1, x - y = 0$

$$\text{By solving } x + y = 1 \text{ \& } x - y = 0, \text{ we get } x = y = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{By solving } x + y = -1, x - y = 0, \text{ we get } x = y = -\frac{1}{2}$$

7 (c) Let the digit at unit's place and ten's place be x and y respectively $No = 10y + x$

$$\text{ATS } 10y + x + 9 = 10x + y$$

$$\therefore 9x - 9y = 9 \text{ or } x - y = 1$$

$$x + y = 15$$

On solving, we get $x = 8, y = 7$

$$No = 78$$

8 (b) $D = b^2 - 4ac = (r-p)^2 - 4(q-r)(p-q) = (p-2q+r)^2$
(on simplification)

$$\text{For roots use the formula } x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{D}}{2a}$$

9 (d) $|x-3| = 2$

$$x-3 = \pm 2$$

$$x-3 = 2 \quad \text{or } x-3 = -2$$

$$x-5 = 0 \quad x-1 = 0$$

$$\text{The reqd equ } (x-5)(x-1) = 0 \text{ or } x^2 - 6x + 5 = 0$$

10 (a) Let the roots be 3α and 2α

$$S = 5\alpha = -\frac{m}{12} \quad \alpha = -\frac{m}{60} \quad P = 6\alpha^2 = \frac{5}{12}$$

$$6\left(-\frac{m}{60}\right)^2 = \frac{5}{12}$$

$$m = 5\sqrt{10}$$

11 (b) Let the nos be a and b

$$AM = \frac{a+b}{2} = 10$$

$$a+b = 20 \quad (i)$$

$$GM = \sqrt{ab} = 8$$

$$ab = 64 \quad (ii)$$

Solving (i) and (ii), we get $a = 16, b = 4$

or $a = 4, b = 16$ Nos are 16, 4

12 (a) $\sqrt{0.04 \times 0.4 \times a} = 0.4 \times 0.04 \times \sqrt{b}$

$$\text{On squaring } 0.04 \times 0.4 \times a = (0.4)^2 \times (0.04)^2 \times b$$

$$\text{or } \frac{a}{b} = 0.4 \times 0.04 = 0.016$$

13 (c) $10648 = 8000\left(1 + \frac{R}{100}\right)^3 \quad \frac{10648}{8000} = \left(1 + \frac{R}{100}\right)^3$

$$\text{or } \frac{1331}{1000} = \left(1 + \frac{R}{100}\right)^3 \text{ or } \left(\frac{11}{10}\right)^3 = \left(1 + \frac{R}{100}\right)^3$$

$$\text{or } 1 + \frac{R}{100} = \frac{11}{10} \quad R = 10$$

14 (a) $a = LB, b = BH, c = HL \quad abc = L^2B^2H^2$

$$V = L \times B \times H = \sqrt{abc}$$

15 (a) $T = \frac{D}{S} \quad \text{Total time} = \frac{2500}{500} + \frac{1200}{400} + \frac{500}{250} = 10 \text{ hrs}$

$$\text{Total distance} = 2500 + 1200 + 500 = 4200 \text{ km}$$

$$\text{Average speed} = \frac{4200}{10} = 420 \text{ km/hr}$$

16 (d) $\sin 50^\circ = \sin (90^\circ - 40^\circ) = \cos 40^\circ, \sin 70^\circ = \cos 20^\circ$

$$\therefore \text{G.E.} = \sin^2 20 + \sin^2 40 + \cos^2 40 + \cos^2 20 \\ = (\sin^2 20 + \cos^2 20) + \sin^2 40 + \cos^2 40 = 1 + 1 = 2$$

$$17. (d) \tan \theta = \frac{\cos 9^\circ + \sin 9^\circ}{\cos 9^\circ - \sin 9^\circ} = \frac{\frac{\cos 9^\circ}{\cos 9^\circ} + \frac{\sin 9^\circ}{\cos 9^\circ}}{\frac{\cos 9^\circ}{\cos 9^\circ} - \frac{\sin 9^\circ}{\cos 9^\circ}} \\ = \frac{1 + \tan 9^\circ}{1 - \tan 9^\circ} = \frac{\tan 45^\circ + \tan 9^\circ}{1 - \tan 45^\circ \cdot \tan 9^\circ} \\ = \tan (45^\circ + 9^\circ) = \tan 54^\circ \quad [\tan 45^\circ = 1]$$

$$18. (d) \text{Sum of opp. } \angle \text{s of a cyclic quad.} = 180^\circ \\ \text{Let the opp. } \angle \text{s be } \alpha \text{ and } 3\alpha \therefore \alpha + 3\alpha = 180 \\ \alpha = 45^\circ \therefore 3\alpha = 135^\circ$$

$$19. (c) \text{Let increase in level of water be } h \text{ cm} \\ \text{A.T.S. } \pi \left(\frac{10}{2}\right)^2 \times h = 4 \times \frac{4}{3} \pi \left(\frac{2}{2}\right)^3 \therefore h = \frac{16}{75} \text{ cm}$$

$$20. (c) \frac{1}{3}[x + 2x + \frac{2}{3}x] = 44 \therefore x = 36$$

$$\text{Lowest no.} = \frac{2}{3}x = 24$$

$$21. (a) \text{Reqd. \%age} = 100 - (52 + 40 - 27) = 35$$

$$22. (d) 3x = x + 4 \therefore x = 2$$

$$\text{Quantity of milk in the mixture} = 3x = 3 \times 2 = 6l$$

$$23. (a) (25M + 10B)'s 6 \text{ days' work} \\ = (21M + 30B)'s 5 \text{ days' work} \\ (150M + 60B)'s 1 \text{ day's work} \\ = (105M + 150B)'s 1 \text{ day's work} \\ \text{or } 1M's \text{ work} = 2B's \text{ work} \\ \therefore 25M's \text{ work} = 50B's \text{ work} \\ (50 + 10) \text{ Boys can do a work in 6 days} \\ \text{Boys reqd. to do a work in four days} \\ = (6 \times 60) + 4 = 90 \\ \therefore \text{No. of boys reqd.} = 90 - 40 \times 2 = 10$$

$$24. (c) \text{Reqd. C.P.} = 500 \times \frac{(100 - 10)}{100} \times \frac{100}{(100 + 20)} = \text{Rs } 375$$

$$25. (c) \left(\frac{7}{8}\right)^4 \times \left(\frac{7}{8}\right)^{-5} = \left(\frac{7}{8}\right)^{2m-7} \therefore 2m-7 = 4 + (-5) \therefore m = 3$$

$$26. (a) \text{Let one way walking time be } x \text{ hrs and one way} \\ \text{riding time } y \text{ hrs} \\ \therefore x + y = 6 \text{ hrs } 45 \text{ minutes} \\ \therefore 2x + 2y = 13 \text{ hrs } 30 \text{ minutes} \\ \text{But } 2y = 6 \text{ hrs } 45 \text{ minutes} - 3 \text{ hrs} = 3 \text{ hrs } 45 \text{ minutes} \\ \therefore 2x = 9 \text{ hrs } 45 \text{ minutes}$$

$$27. (b) \text{Population 3 years ago } \left(1 + \frac{5}{100}\right)^3 = 138915 \\ \therefore \text{Population 3 yrs ago} = 138915 \times \left(\frac{100}{105}\right)^3 = 120000$$

$$28. (c) A, B, C \text{ save } 40\%, 35\% \text{ and } 30\% \text{ of their resp. salaries} \\ 40\% \text{ of A's salary} = 14$$

$$\therefore \text{A's salary} = 14 \times \frac{100}{40} = 35$$

$$\text{Sly B's salary} = 21 \times \frac{100}{35} = 60$$

$$\text{C's salary} = 15 \times \frac{100}{30} = 50$$

$$\text{Ratio of salaries} = 35 : 60 : 50 \text{ or } 7 : 12 : 10$$

$$\therefore \text{B's actual salary} = \frac{12}{7 + 12 + 10} \times 2900 = \text{Rs } 1200$$

$$29. (c) \text{Let P be Rs } x$$

$$\text{A.T.S. } x \left(1 + \frac{20}{100}\right)^2 - x \left(1 + \frac{10}{100}\right)^2 = 482$$

$$\therefore x = \text{Rs } 2000$$

$$30. (a) \text{Let the capacity of each glass be } 1$$

$$\text{Quantity of alcohol in the vessel}$$

$$= \frac{2}{3} + \frac{3}{7} + \frac{4}{9} = \frac{401}{315}$$

$$\text{Quantity of water} = 3 - \frac{401}{315} = \frac{544}{315}$$

$$\therefore \text{Reqd ratio} = 401 : 544$$

$$31. (d) a^2 = d^6 \therefore a = d^3, b = d^2, c = d^{6/5} \\ \log_d abc = \log_d d^3 \cdot d^2 \cdot d^{6/5} = \log_d d^{31/5} \\ = \frac{31}{5} \log_d d = \frac{31}{5} \times 1 = 6 \frac{1}{5}$$

$$32. (d) \frac{a^4 - b^4}{a^2 - b^2} = a^2 + b^2 \therefore \text{Reqd value} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{13}{4}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{13}{3}\right)^2} \\ = 5 \frac{5}{12}$$

$$33. (a) \text{Reqd. divisor} = 1209 + 703 - 901 = 1011$$

$$34. (a) \sqrt{\frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{2-\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{2+\sqrt{3}}} = \sqrt{\frac{(2+\sqrt{3})^2}{4-3}} = 2+\sqrt{3} = 3.732$$

$$35. (c) \frac{\frac{4}{5} \div \frac{7}{15} \text{ of } \frac{8}{9}}{\frac{4}{5} \div \frac{7}{15} \times \frac{8}{9}} = \frac{\frac{4}{5} - \frac{56}{135}}{\frac{4}{5} \times \frac{15}{7} \times \frac{8}{9}} = \frac{\frac{4}{5} \times \frac{135}{56}}{\frac{32}{21}} = 1 \frac{17}{64}$$

$$36. (a) \text{Reqd. sum} = \text{Rs } (1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + \dots + 365) \\ = \frac{365(365+1)}{2} = \text{Rs } 66795$$

$$37. (c) \text{Let CP be Rs } 100$$

$$\therefore \text{1st S.P.} = \text{Rs } 115$$

$$\text{Ind CP} = 100 - 10 = \text{Rs } 90$$

$$\text{Ind SP} = \frac{125}{100} \times 90 = \text{Rs } 112.50$$

$$\text{Difference} = 1150 - 112.50 = \text{Rs } 2.50$$

If difference is Rs 2.50, then CP = Rs 100

$$\therefore \text{If difference is Rs 4, CP} = \frac{4 \times 100}{2.50}$$

$$\text{CP} = \text{Rs } 160$$

38. (a) Let perimeter of a square be $4x \therefore \text{area} = x^2$

$$\text{Circumference} = 2\pi r = 4x \therefore r = \frac{2x}{\pi}, A = \frac{4x^2}{\pi}$$

$$\text{Reqd. ratio} = \frac{4x^2}{\pi} : x^2 \text{ or } 4 : \pi = 4 : \frac{22}{7} \text{ or } 14 : 11$$

39. (b) Area of sheet reqd. to make the tank

$$= lb + 2bh + 2lh$$

$$= 15 \times 10 + 2 \times 10 \times 6 + 2 \times 15 \times 6 = 450 \text{m}^2$$

$$\text{Length of sheet} = \frac{\text{Area}}{\text{Width}} = \frac{450}{2} = 225 \text{ m}$$

40. (a) Let the nos. be $3x$ and $5x \therefore \frac{3x-9}{5x-9} = \frac{12}{13} \therefore x = 11$

$$\text{Second no.} = 5 \times 11 = 55$$

- 41.-45. Co-ordinates of A (0, 2), B (2, 2.5), C (5, 1.5), D (6, .5), E (7, .5), F (8, 6), G (11, 5)

41. (a) Slope of CD = $\frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{.5 - 1.5}{6 - 5} = \frac{-1}{1} = -1$

42. (d) 43. (a)

44. (a) Draw the vertical lines from B, C, D, E, F, G, we get trapeziums

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Reqd. area} &= \frac{1}{2} [2(2 + 2.5) + 3(1.5 + 2.5) + 1(1.5 + .5) \\ &\quad + 1(.5 + .5) + 1(6.0 + 0.5) + 3(6 + 5)] \\ &= 31.75 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Area of a trap} = \frac{1}{2} (\text{sum of ||$$

lines \times Distance between them)

45. (a) Reqd. ratio = $\frac{39.5}{23} = \frac{79}{46}$

46. (a) Reqd. diff. = $30000 - 28000 = 2000$

47. (b) %age increase = $\frac{40000 - 35000}{35000} \times 100 = 14.28$

48. (a) No. of other vehicles reqd.

$$\text{in Jan } 60000 - 35000 = 25000 \text{ in Feb} = 24000,$$

$$\text{in March} = 18000, \text{ in April} = 7000,$$

$$\text{in May} = 10000, \text{ in June} = 8000$$

49. (c) Reqd. ratio = $40000 : 8000 = 5 : 1$

50. (a)

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE

National Defence Academy Exam, 17th Sept '95

Questions 1-30 had appeared in March '96 issue. The balance questions along with complete answers are given below

Passage III

From the beginning of the afternoon he was nagged by a dull headache. He had smoked too many cigarettes, perhaps. He had stared too often at his reflection in the mirror over the wash-basin. Moreover, thanks to these frequent inspections of himself in the mirror, he had convinced himself beyond any possible doubt that his hair was receding, had receded a matter of inches since well, since hardly any time at all, since Christmas. Two deep inroads, he was perfectly sure, had been made towards the crown of his head. Now there merely remained a slender promontory of hair that ran out into the raging sea of wrinkles on his forehead. What earthly use was that? Such a derisory strip of hair could not possibly interest a young girl accustomed, no doubt, to admiring excessively hairy pop singers. He grasped one or two of the fringe hairs and pulled them experimentally to see if they were secure. They came away without argument.

31 He had a bad headache probably because he was

- (a) often looking in the mirror
- (b) smoking too many cigarettes
- (c) working hard
- (d) losing a lot of hair

32 The man is convinced that

- (a) only hairy men with a lot of hair can attract young girls
- (b) young girls do not care for hairy men
- (c) young girls respect pop singers only
- (d) young girls are attracted towards men with broad forehead

33 He pulled a few of his hair be-

cause

- (a) they were beginning to turn grey
- (b) he wanted to see whether they were strong
- (c) he thought it would relieve his headache
- (d) he was in a pensive mood

34 Which one of the following statements would best describe the man's mood?

- (a) He was worried because he was losing hair
- (b) He did not bother about losing hair as long as it was strong
- (c) He enjoyed looking at himself in the mirror
- (d) He was worried because he had too many wrinkles on his forehead

ORDERING OF WORDS IN A SENTENCE

(Items 35 to 39)

Directions

In each of the items 35-39, there is a sentence of which some parts have been jumbled up. You are required to rearrange these parts which are labelled P, Q, R and S to produce the correct sentence. Choose the proper sequence and mark in your Answer Sheet accordingly.

Example

Z It is well-known that

- (P) the effect
- (Q) is very bad
- (R) on children
- (S) of cinema

The proper sequence should be

- (a) PSRQ
- (b) SPQR
- (c) SRPQ
- (d) QSRP

Explanation The proper way of writing the sentence is 'It is well-known that the effect of cinema on children is very bad.' This is indicated

by the sequence P S R Q and so 'a' is the correct answer.

Now attempt items 35 to 39.

35 Only

- (P) to make himself
- (Q) by shouting at the top of his voice
- (R) was he able
- (S) heard

The proper sequence should be

- (a) QRP S
- (b) PSQR
- (c) QPRS
- (d) PSRQ

36 The Buddha

- (P) who had
- (Q) set views
- (R) was opposed to all those
- (S) of closed system of thought

The proper sequence should be

- (a) PQRS
- (b) RPQS
- (c) PQSR
- (d) SRPQ

37 The doctor's offer

- (P) not only saved Julie
- (Q) but enabled her to blossom into a happy woman
- (R) from the jaws of death
- (S) of marriage

The proper sequence should be

- (a) PSQR
- (b) PQRS
- (c) SPQR
- (d) SPRQ

38 Towards midnight

- (P) so that the sky was lighted with
- (Q) and the clouds drifted away,
- (R) the rain ceased
- (S) the incredible lamp of stars

The proper sequence should be

- (a) RPQS
- (b) SQPR
- (c) RQPS
- (d) SPQR

39. The effectiveness of a film
(P) the needs of the audience
(Q) is judged by
(R) and by its relation to
(S) its theme.

The proper sequence should be

- (a) PSQR
(b) QRPS
(c) PQRS
(d) QSRP

RECONSTRUCTING PASSAGE

Items 40 to 44)

Directions:

In items 40 to 44, there are six sentences marked S₁, S₆, P, Q, R, S. The positions of S₁ and S₆ are fixed. You are required to choose one of the four alternatives given below every passage which would be the most logical sequence of the sentences in the passage.

Mark your response on the Answer sheet at the appropriate space.

Example X has been solved for you.

Example X:

S₁: A poor peasant went off early one morning to plough, taking with him for his breakfast a piece of bread.

S₆: He lifted the coat, but the bread was gone!

P: After a while, when his horse was tired and he was hungry, the peasant stopped ploughing.

Q: He hid it under a bush and started work.

R: He went to get his coat and his breakfast.

S: He got his plough ready and put his coat round the bread.

The proper sequence should be

- (a) SQPR
(b) QPRS
(c) PRSQ
(d) RSQP

Explanation: The proper sequence in this Example is: SQPR which is marked (a). Therefore 'a' is the correct answer.

Now attempt items 40 to 44.

40. S₁: You might say that all through history there have been wars and that mankind has survived in spite of them.

S₆: Man has now discovered how to release the colossal forces locked up in the atom.

P: Now, if his purposes are those of

destruction, each fresh advance in his mastery of nature only increases the danger from war, as men learn to destroy one another in ever great numbers, from ever great distances, and in ever more varied and ingenious ways.

Q: He has learned to tap the hidden forces of our planet and use them for his purposes.

R: It has even developed and become civilized in spite of them.

S: This is true, but unfortunately as part of his development man has enormously increased his power over nature.

The proper sequence should be

- (a) RSQP
(b) PQSR
(c) QPRS
(d) PRQS

41. S₁: It was early 1943 and the war in the East was going disastrously.

S₆: Boarding Party, James Leasor's latest best-seller is a record of this tale of heroics tinged with irony and humour.

P: How this unlikely bunch of middle-aged civilians accomplished their mission makes fascinating reading.

Q: To stop the sinkings a spy ring had to be broken, a German ship assaulted, and a secret radio transmitter silenced.

R: U-boats were torpedoing Allied ships in the Indian ocean faster than they could be replaced.

S: And the only people who could do the job were a handful of British businessmen in Calcutta—all men not called out for active service.

The proper sequence should be

- (a) PRSQ
(b) QSRP
(c) RQSP
(d) SQPR

42. S₁: The domestic cat is a contradiction in itself.

S₆: Hence has it won such a reputation for obedience and loyalty.

P: But the adult pet dog also sees its human family as the dominant members of the pack.

Q: Nursed in kittenhood it develops extraordinary intimacy with mankind.

R: The dog, like the pet cat, sees its owners as pseudo-parents.

S: At the same time, however, the

cat continues to retain its independence.

The proper sequence should be

- (a) QSPR
(b) SQPR
(c) SQRP
(d) QSRP

43. S₁: The earliest reference to the playing card has been found in China, as long ago as the tenth century.

S₆: The current pack of 52 cards was only regulated in the seventeenth century.

P: They appeared in Italy around 1320.

Q: Long before that the Chinese used paper money which was similar in design to the playing cards.

R: It is believed that perhaps travelling gypsies introduced them to Europe

S: In olden days cards were used both for telling fortune and playing games.

The proper sequence should be

- (a) RSQP
(b) QRSP
(c) QSRP
(d) RQSP

44. S₁: Helen Keller has an ageless quality about her in keeping with her amazing life story.

S₆: She believes the blind should live and work like their fellows, with full responsibility.

P: Although warmed by this human reaction, she has no wish to be set aside from the rest of mankind.

Q: She is an inspiration to both blind and the seeing everywhere.

R: When she visited Japan after World War II, boys and girls from remote villages ran to her, crying, "Helen Keller".

S: Blind, deaf and mute from early childhood, she rose above her triple handicap to become one of the best known characters in the modern world.

The proper sequence should be

- (a) SQRP
(b) RSQP
(c) SRQP
(d) RSPQ

SELECTING WORDS

(Items 45 to 50)

In the following sentences at certain points you are given a choice of three

words—one of which is most appropriate. Choose the best word out of the three. Mark the letter, viz., 'a', 'b' or 'c' relating to this word on your Answer Sheet. Examples 'K' and 'L' have been solved for you.

K. The river has been

- (a) rising
- (b) raising
- (c) arising

all night.

L. We built the raft

- (a) too strong
- (b) very strong
- (c) strong enough

to hold us.

Out of the list given in 'K' only "rising" is the correct answer because a river cannot be raised, it rises on its own. So 'a' is the correct answer for item 'K'. For item 'L', 'c' is the correct answer. In order to solve these items you have to first read the whole passage and then decide what the most appropriate word is.

Now attempt items 45 to 50.

Gandhiji's epithet is not just honorific; it tells the truth about him. He was indeed a 'great soul'.

He may have been the

- 45. (a) greatest
- (b) smallest
- (c) man

of any that have made

- 46. (a) our
- (b) their
- (c) sudden

appearance in our time. He

- 47. (a) had
- (b) bore
- (c) was

undoubtedly the peer of the

- 48. (a) known
- (b) greatest
- (c) available

souls of previous ages from

- 49. (a) which
- (b) whom
- (c) those

we have surviving records of

- 50. (a) outstanding

(b) ordinary
(c) poor
personalities.

ANSWERS

1. (d) No error.
2. (b) 'because she spent most of the time'
3. (c) 'I jumped for joy'.
4. (a) 'My uncle frequently goes abroad'
5. (b) 'will attend the meeting'
6. (a) 'The manager called the clerk and asked whether'.
7. (a) 8. (b) 9. (d)
10. (a) 11. (c) 12. (a)
13. (d) 14. (b) 15. (c)
16. (a) 17. (b) 18. (b)
19. (a) 20. (a) 21. (d)
22. (c) 23. (a) 24. (a)
25. (b) 26. (c) 27. (a)
28. (c) 29. (b) 30. (a)
31. (d) 32. (a) 33. (b)
34. (a) 35. (a) 36. (b)
37. (d) 38. (c) 39. (d)
40. (a) 41. (c) 42. (b)
43. (c) 44. (a) 45. (b)
46. (b) 47. (c) 48. (b)
49. (b) 50. (a)

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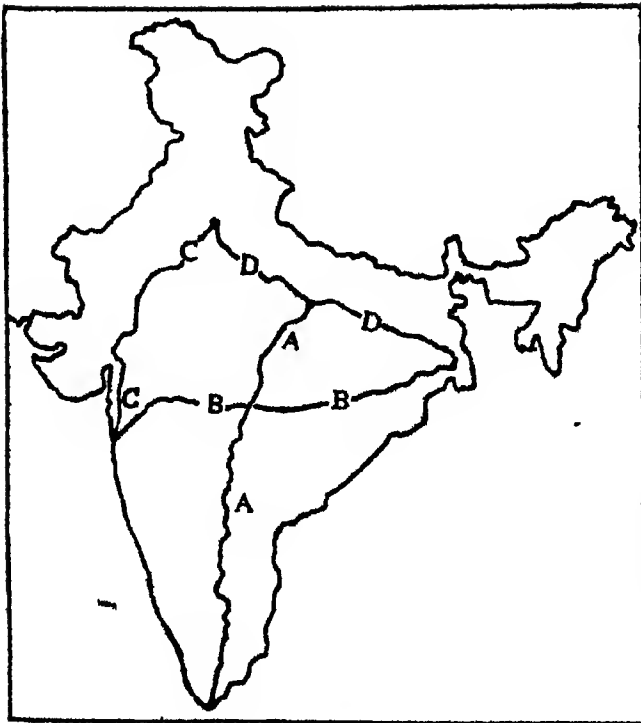
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General Awareness

Indian Engineering Services Exam, 20th August, 1995

1. The famous rock-cut temple of Kailasa is at:
 - (a) Ajanta
 - (b) Badami
 - (c) Ellora
 - (d) Elephanta
2. Which of the following animals is adapted to both aquatic and terrestrial life?
 - (a) Mammals
 - (b) Birds
 - (c) Amphibians
 - (d) Reptiles
3. Which one of the following places is known for lignite?
 - (a) Palana
 - (b) Khetri
 - (c) Hazratbasti
 - (d) Korba
4. In which one of the following countries both the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition are women?
 - (a) Pakistan
 - (b) Bangladesh
 - (c) Sri Lanka
 - (d) Turkey
5. Which one of the following is the source of energy in an ecosystem?
 - (a) Light received from the sun
 - (b) Sugar stored in plants
 - (c) Heat liberated during fermentation of sugars
 - (d) Heat liberated during respiration
6. Which one of the following is the correct sequence of major agricultural food crops of India in descending order of production (according to weight)?
 - (a) Wheat, rice, sugarcane, pulses
 - (b) Coarse cereals, pulses, oilseeds, sugarcane
 - (c) Pulses, wheat, rice, oilseeds
 - (d) Sugarcane, rice, wheat, coarse cereals
7. The Sufi saint associated with Ajmer was:
 - (a) Shah Alam Bukhari
 - (b) Shaikh Shihab-ud-din Suhrawardi
 - (c) Muin-ud-din Chishti
 - (d) Saiyid Muhammad Gesudaraz
8. In a cell the endoplasmic reticulum is the main centre of:
 - (a) carbohydrate synthesis
 - (b) ATP synthesis
 - (c) fat synthesis
 - (d) protein synthesis
9. Which one of the following sets of places has both sea ports and oil refineries?
 - (a) Vishakhapatnam, Madras, Cochin and Bombay
 - (b) Calcutta, Quilon, Kandla and Madras
 - (c) Marmagao, Calicut, Vishakhapatnam and Haldia
 - (d) Cochin, Haldia, Cuttack and Bombay
10. The Mughal emperor at the time of Ahmed Shah Abdali's invasion of India was:
 - (a) Bahadur Shah I
 - (b) Bahadur Shah II
 - (c) Shah Alam I
 - (d) Shah Alam II
11. Which of the following are known as the suicide bags of cells?
 - (a) Ribosomes
 - (b) Golgi bodies
 - (c) Lysosomes
 - (d) Nucleoli
12. Sahyadri is the traditional name of the:
 - (a) Western Ghats
 - (b) Eastern Ghats
 - (c) Aravallis
 - (d) Barabar and Nagarjuni hills
13. During the Revolt of 1857 Bakht Khan was the Chief Commander of troops in:
 - (a) Delhi
 - (b) Jhansi
 - (c) Lucknow
 - (d) Gorakhpur
14. If a person vomits excessively and shows symptoms of diarrhoea it is possible that in his blood serum there is a decrease of:
 - (a) calcium
 - (b) iron
 - (c) sodium
 - (d) phosphorus
15. Consider the map given below showing four national highways:



The four national highways, marked A, B, C and D respectively are national highways bearing numbers

- (a) 6, 8, 7 and 2
- (b) 7, 6, 8 and 2
- (c) 8, 2, 7 and 6
- (d) 2, 6, 7 and 8

16 "Do or die" was the slogan which Mahatma Gandhi gave during the

- (a) Quit India Movement
- (b) Non Co-operation Movement
- (c) Khilafat agitation
- (d) Civil Disobedience Movement

17 Night blindness could be caused by the deficiency of

- (a) Vitamin A
- (b) Vitamin B
- (c) Vitamin C
- (d) Vitamin D

18 The figures given below indicate the production of four foodgrains in lakh tonnes during 1992-93 in India. Which one of these indicates wheat production?

- (a) 369
- (b) 562
- (c) 147
- (d) 726

19 Financial allocation for education was made for the first time by the Charter Act of

- (a) 1773
- (b) 1793
- (c) 1813
- (d) 1833

20 Match List I with List II and select the correct answer by using the codes given below the lists

List I
(Places of historical monuments)

- A Angkor Vat
- B Borobodur
- C Bamayan
- D Anuradhapuram

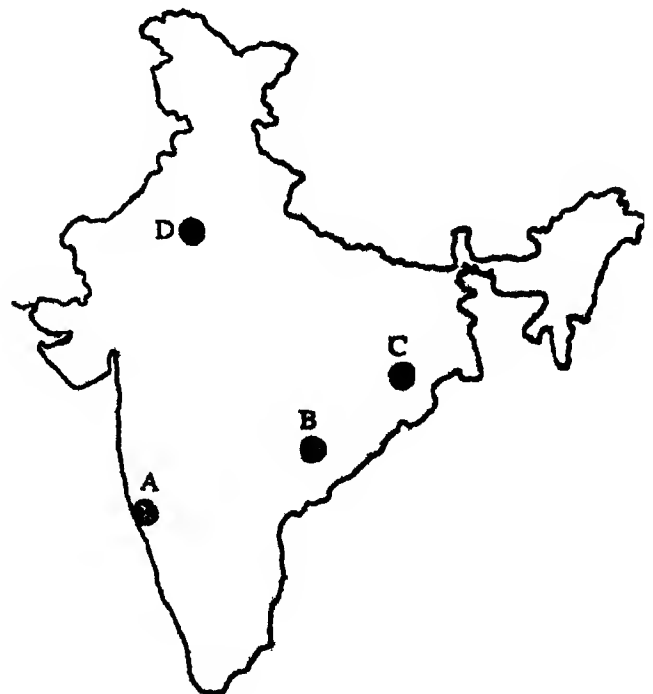
List II
(Located in)

- 1 Afghanistan
- 2 Sri Lanka
- 3 Java
- 4 Kampuchea
- 5 Nepal

Codes

- | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|---|---|
| (a) | A | B | C | D |
| | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| (b) | A | B | C | D |
| | 4 | 5 | 1 | 3 |
| (c) | A | B | C | D |
| | 4 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| (d) | A | B | C | D |
| | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 |

21 Consider the map given below



Iron ore mining activity ~~does not take place~~ **does not take place** in the place marked

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D

22. The first railway line in India was opened for traffic in the year:

- (a) 1835
- (b) 1853
- (c) 1858
- (d) 1901

23. 'Black hole' in the outer space is due to:

- (a) nuclear fission
- (b) gravitational attraction
- (c) nuclear fusion
- (d) collision of asteroids

24. The number of pin code postal regions in India is:

- (a) 5
- (b) 6
- (c) 7
- (d) 8

25. Which one of the following groups of countries shares the shores of the Caspian Sea with Russia and Iran?

- (a) Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan
- (b) Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Georgia
- (c) Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Moldova
- (d) Azerbaijan, Romania and Ukraine

26. Inland postal rates in India apply to:

- (a) Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU) countries
- (b) Pakistan and Bangladesh
- (c) Maldives and Sri Lanka
- (d) Bhutan and Nepal

27. There is no provision for the impeachment of:

- (a) the Vice-President
- (b) the Chief Justice of the High Court
- (c) the Chief Justice of India
- (d) the Governor

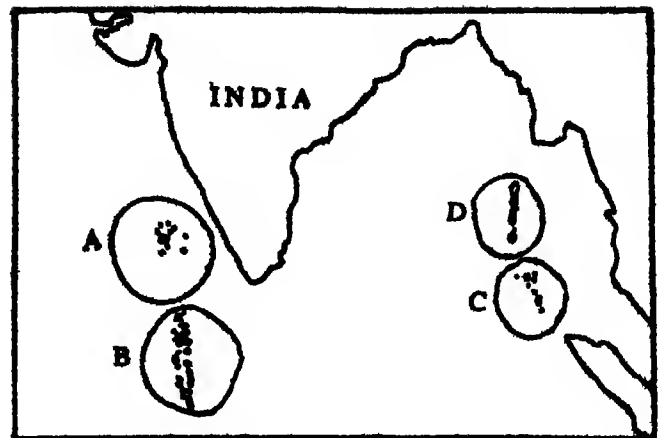
28. The Indian Independence League was set up by:

- (a) Aruna Asaf Ali
- (b) Rash Behari Bose
- (c) Jayaprakash Narayan
- (d) S.M. Joshi

29. Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar awards are given for:

- (a) excellence in film direction
- (b) outstanding contribution to science
- (c) creating mass awareness on environmental issues
- (d) exploring new dimensions in creative writing in Indian languages

30. Consider the map given below:



The island groups marked A, B, C and D respectively are:

- (a) Lakshadweep, Maldives, Nicobar and Andaman
- (b) Maldives, Lakshadweep, Andaman and Nicobar
- (c) Lakshadweep, Andaman, Nicobar and Maldives
- (d) Maldives, Lakshadweep, Nicobar and Andaman

31. In India the power of judicial review is restricted because:

- (a) the executive is supreme
- (b) the Legislature is supreme
- (c) the Constitution is supreme
- (d) the judges are transferable

32. The longest optical fibre cable of the world is laid between:

- (a) Paris and Tokyo
- (b) Singapore and Marseilles
- (c) Manila and Toronto
- (d) London and New York

33. Which one of the following deals with economic offences?

- (a) MISA
- (b) NSA
- (c) TADA
- (d) COFEPOSA

34. Which one of the following was a French possession before its merger with India?

- (a) Nagar Haveli
- (b) Daman
- (c) Chandernagore
- (d) Dadra

35. Earlier navigators used to find their directions in the 'high seas' with the help of star constellations. The group of stars used for this purpose in the southern hemisphere is:

- (a) The Orion

- (b) The Polaris
- (c) The Crux
- (d) The Great Bear

36. Which one of the following places has yielded earliest *Stupa* railing?

- (a) Sanchi
- (b) Bharhut
- (c) Amaravati
- (d) Nagarjunakonda

37. Who discovered that mosquito served as a carrier of malaria?

- (a) Jonas Salk
- (b) Ronald Ross
- (c) Louis Pasteur
- (d) Robert Koch

38. The 1994 Tansen Samman was given to:

- (a) Ustad Ali Khan
- (b) Lalgudi Jayaraman
- (c) Bala Murali Krishna
- (d) Lata Mangeshkar

39. Antibodies are formed in.

- (a) Lymph nodes
- (b) Red bone marrow
- (c) Spleen
- (d) Liver

40. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer by using the codes given below the lists:

List I (The name of the facility)	List II (Where located)
A Variable energy Cyclotron	1. Bombay
B. Dhruva Reactor	2. Ooty (Uthagamandalam)
C Vainupappu Telescope	3. Near Pune
D Giant Meter Wave Radio Telescope	4. Kavalur (Tamilnadu)
	5. Cuttack

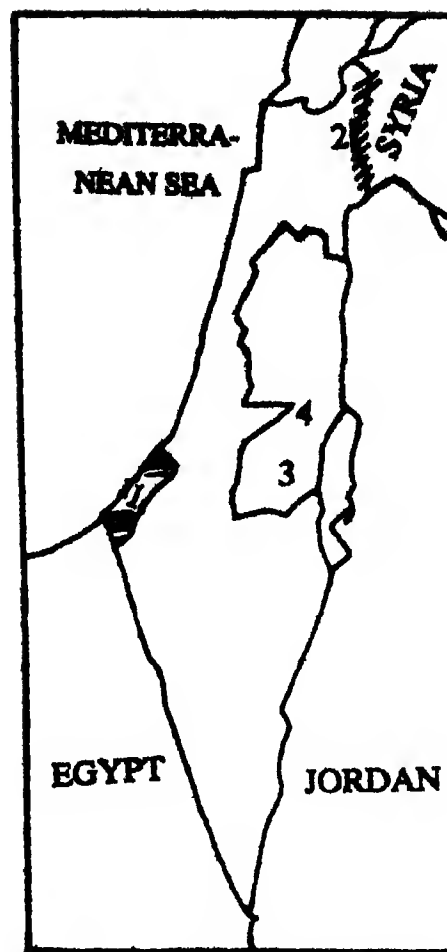
Codes

- | | | | |
|-------|---|---|---|
| (a) A | B | C | D |
| 3 | 5 | 2 | 1 |
| (b) A | B | C | D |
| 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| (c) A | B | C | D |
| 3 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| (d) A | B | C | D |
| 5 | 1 | 4 | 3 |

41. The two new sports introduced in Barcelona Olympics were:

- (a) Chess and Billiards
- (b) Badminton and Baseball
- (c) Synchronised Swimming and Water Polo
- (d) Tennis and Soft ball

42. Consider the map given below:



The places marked 1, 2, 3 and 4 in the map respectively indicate:

- (a) Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Gaza and Nazareth
- (b) Hebron, Jenin, Golan Heights and Nablus
- (c) Baqa el Gharbiya, Jerusalem, Jenin and Golan Heights
- (d) Gaza, Golan Heights, Hebron and Jerusalem

43. Consider the following two statements

- I. Pasang Lhamu Sherpa is the first Nepalese woman to conquer Mt. Everest.
- II. Dicky Dolma is the youngest woman climber of Mt. Everest

Of these two statements:

- (a) I is true but II is false
- (b) I is false but II is true
- (c) both I and II are false
- (d) both I and II are true

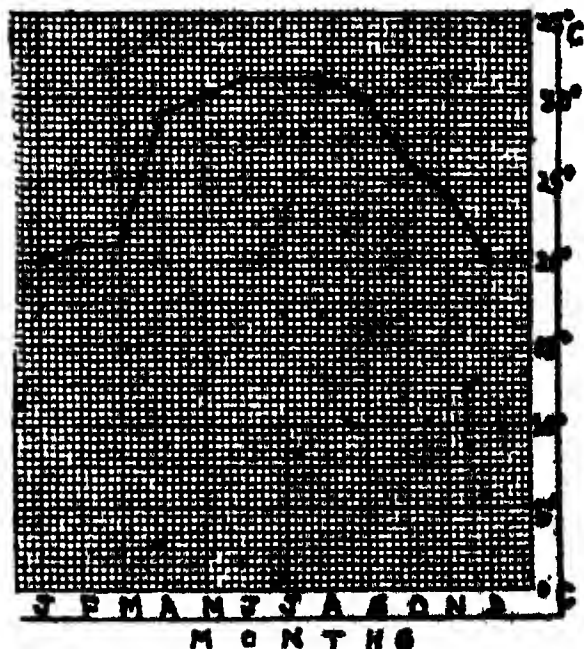
44. Chromosome complement in Turner's syndrome is:

- (a) 47; XOY
- (b) 45; XO
- (c) 46; XX
- (d) 47; XYY

45. The coliform bacterial count for inland and surface water for public supply permitted by ISI is not more than:

- (a) 40 bacteria per 100 ml

- (b) 30 bacteria per 100 ml
(c) 20 bacteria per 100 ml
(d) 10 bacteria per 100 ml
- 46 According to ancient Indian legends Surabhu was:
(a) a wish-fulfilling tree
(b) a treasure in the form of a cow churned from the cosmic ocean
(c) a medicine prepared by Dhanvantri
(d) an intoxicating drink drunk during religious ceremonies
47. The fertility of the soil can be increased by growing
(a) cereals (b) fibre crops
(c) legumes (d) root crops
- 48 The victory of the Congress (I) in the March, 1995 election in Orissa was predicted by
(a) *The Week*—Mode poll
(b) *The India Today*—MARG poll
(c) *The Frontline*—Centre for Media Studies (CMS) poll
(d) none
- 49 Which one of the following pairs of States share a stretch of their border with both Nepal and Bhutan?
(a) Sikkim and Assam
(b) Sikkim and West Bengal
(c) Arunachal Pradesh and Assam
(d) Bihar and West Bengal
- 50 Coagulation of blood in vessels is prevented during normal circulation by
(a) heparin (b) prothrombin
(c) plasmogen (d) thromboplastin
- 51 Consider the graph given below:



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- (a) Calcutta
- (b) Hyderabad
- (c) Nagpur
- (d) Delhi

52. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer by using the codes given below the lists:

List I

- A. Asanga
- B. Bhadrabahu
- C. Vijnanesvara
- D. Yaska

List II

- 1. Jaina teacher
- 2. Jurist
- 3. Etymologist
- 4. Buddhist philosopher
- 5. Writer on polity

Codes

- | | | | |
|-------|---|---|---|
| (a) A | B | C | D |
| 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| (b) A | B | C | D |
| 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| (c) A | B | C | D |
| 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| (d) A | B | C | D |
| 4 | 5 | 1 | 3 |

53. Which one of the following breeds of sheep has been imported to increase wool production in India?

- (a) Chokla
- (b) Magra
- (c) Bellary
- (d) Merino

54. Which of the following statements regarding the Estimates Committee are correct?

- 1. No member of the Rajya Sabha is associated with it
- 2. It has twenty members.
- 3. Its members are elected in accordance with the system of proportional representation for a period of one year
- 4. The Speaker nominates one of its members to be its Chairman

Choose the answer from the codes given below:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3
- (b) 1, 3 and 4
- (c) 1, 2 and 4
- (d) 2, 3 and 4

55. Asoka sent missionaries to:

- (a) China and Kashmir
- (b) Tibet and Ceylon
- (c) Tibet and China
- (d) Kashmir and Ceylon

56. Excess of amino acids are broken down to form urea in:

- (a) kidney
- (b) liver

(c) spleen

(d) rectum

57. To which one of the following dynasties did King Bhoja, a great patron of literature and art, belong?

- (a) Paramara
- (b) Gurjara Pratihara
- (c) Karkota
- (d) Utpala

58. The focal length of lens of the eye is under the control of:

- (a) iris
- (b) pupil
- (c) ciliary body
- (d) cornea

59. Which one of the following is a set of five events included in Modern Pentathlon?

- (a) Horse riding, Fencing, Shooting, Gymnastics, Running
- (b) Judo, Shooting, Swimming, Cycling, Running
- (c) Horse riding, Fencing, Shooting, Swimming, Running
- (d) Cycling, Skating, Shooting, Gymnastics, Running

60. The eastern slopes of the Western Ghats have low rainfall because of:

- (a) the straight West Coast
- (b) the lack of winter depressions
- (c) their leeward location
- (d) the height of the Ghats

ANSWERS

- | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (c) | 2. (c) | 3. (a) |
| 4. (b) | 5. (a) | 6. (d) |
| 7. (c) | 8. (d) | 9. (a) |
| 10. (d) | 11. (c) | 12. (a) |
| 13. (a) | 14. (c) | 15. (b) |
| 16. (a) | 17. (a) | 18. (b) |
| 19. (c) | 20. (c) | 21. (d) |
| 22. (b) | 23. (b) | 24. (d) |
| 25. (a) | 26. (d) | 27. (d) |
| 28. (b) | 29. (b) | 30. (a) |
| 31. (c) | 32. (b) | 33. (d) |
| 34. (c) | 35. (a) | 36. (a) |
| 37. (b) | 38. (a) | 39. (c) |
| 40. (d) | 41. (b) | 42. (d) |
| 43. (b) | 44. (b) | 45. (d) |
| 46. (c) | 47. (c) | 48. (b) |
| 49. (b) | 50. (a) | 51. (a) |
| 52. (c) | 53. (d) | 54. (b) |
| 55. (b) | 56. (b) | 57. (b) |
| 58. (c) | 59. (c) | 60. (c) |

TEST OF REASONING—1

Qs 1-5. Find out the number that does not belong to the series of numbers given in each of the following questions.

1. 9; 16, 30; 52; 79; 114
(a) 16 (b) 30 (c) 52 (d) 114
(e) None of these
2. 100; 81; 62; 49; 36
(a) 62 (b) 81 (c) 100 (d) 36
(e) None of these
3. 21, 8, 29; 37, 56
(a) 8 (b) 29 (c) 37 (d) 56
(e) None of these
4. 4, 8; 9, 14, 16, 64
(a) 14 (b) 8 (c) 16 (d) 9
(e) None of these
5. 5, 7, 11, 13, 15, 17
(a) 7 (b) 13 (c) 15 (d) 17
(e) None of these

Qs. 6 to 10 are based on the series of numbers given below:

3 8 4 5 3 8 4 5 4 8 3 5 4 8 3 8 4 8 3 8 5 4 3 5 8 4

6. How many 8s are followed by four as well as preceded by 3?
(a) 3 (b) 4 (c) 5 (d) 6
(e) None of these
7. The frequency of which numbers match with the value of these numbers?
(a) 3 & 4 (b) 4 & 5 (c) 5 & 8 (d) 8 & 4
(e) None matches
8. Which number has the highest frequency?
(a) 3 (b) 4 (c) 5 (d) 8
(e) 3 and 4
9. What is the ratio between the frequency of 3 and 8?
(a) 1 : 2 (b) 2 : 3 (c) 3 : 4
(d) 1 : 3 (e) None of these
10. Which number is to the right of 11th number from the left?
(a) 8 (b) 5 (c) 4 (d) 3
(e) None of these

Which letters would fit in respectively in the blanks in the following questions to complete the series:

11. a-baac-aacba-c-
(a) abab (b) cbba
(c) bbcb (d) bcca
(e) cbab
12. ab-bcaa-cb-a-bcbc

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| (a) cbba | (b) acbc |
| (c) bcca | (d) cbab |
| (e) cbca | |

13. ba-acbaca-b-cac-ac
(a) ccab (b) bccb
(c) bcab (d) cacb
(e) cccb

Qs. 14-17. Four out of five pairs of numbers in each question have the same relationship between them. Find out the one that is different from the rest:

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 14. (a) 64 : 4 | (b) 8 : 2 | (c) 125 : 5 |
| (d) 1 : 1 | (e) 121 : 11 | |
| 15. (a) 123 : 321 | (b) 411 : 114 | (c) 523 : 235 |
| (d) 301 : 103 | (e) 371 : 173 | |
| 16. (a) 36 : 48 | (b) 9 : 12 | (c) 21 : 24 |
| (d) 48 : 64 | (e) 54 : 72 | |
| 17. (a) 2 : 1 | (b) 6 : 9 | (c) 10 : 25 |
| (d) 4 : 4 | (e) 20 : 80 | |

Qs. 18 to 22. Find the odd-man out:

- | | | |
|--------------|----------|----------|
| 18. (a) NOQT | (b) JKMP | (c) YZBE |
| (d) FGJM | (e) TUWZ | |
| 19. (a) SQOM | (b) LJCE | (c) ECAY |
| (d) XVTR | (e) PNJ | |
| 20. (a) J16F | (b) L14B | (c) P29M |
| (d) K18G | (e) R21D | |
| 21. (a) DwFu | (b) GtMn | (c) CxJq |
| (d) LoNm | (e) HsKr | |
| 22. (a) P8H | (b) R12F | (c) Z14L |
| (d) K9D | (e) U2S | |

Qs. 23 to 25 are based on the word CHARACTER.

23. How many sets of two letters have as many letters between them as they have in the alphabets

- | | | | |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|
| (a) 1 | (b) 2 | (c) 3 | (d) 4 |
| (e) None | | | |

24. Which of the following words is different from the others?

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| (a) CHART | (b) REACT |
| (c) TRACE | (d) CHATTER |
| (e) HEART | |

25. Which word is different from the rest?

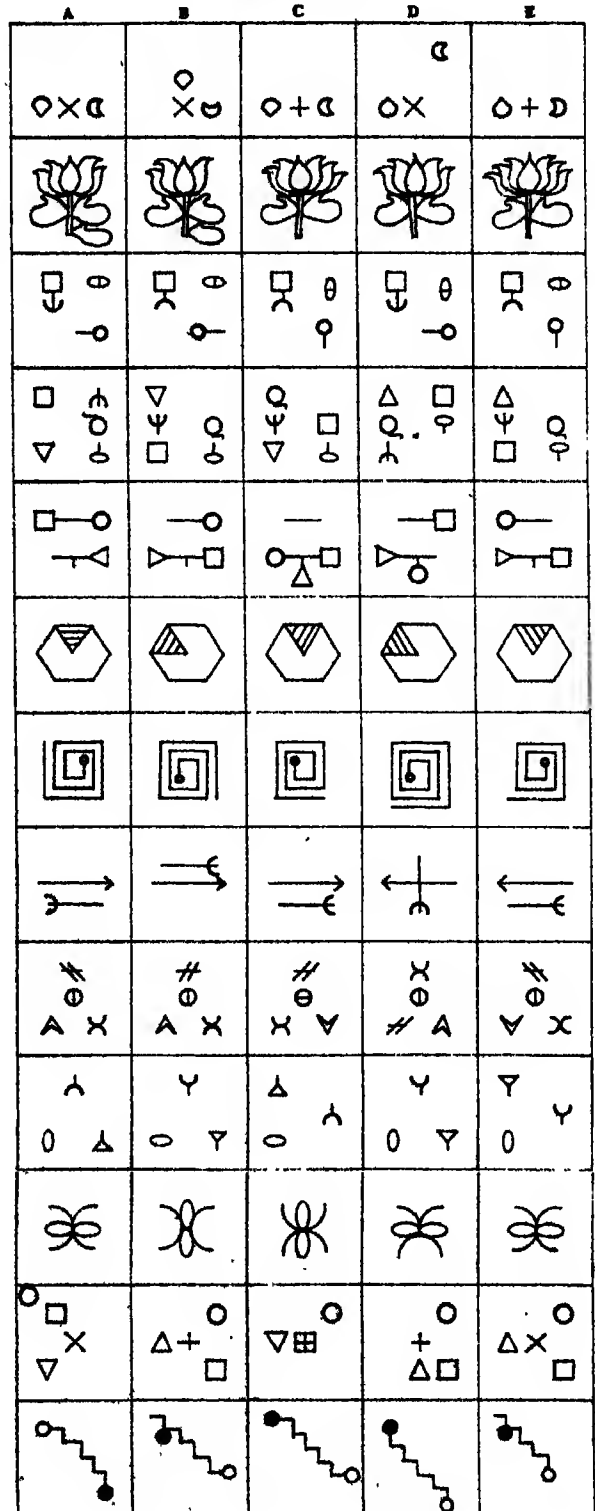
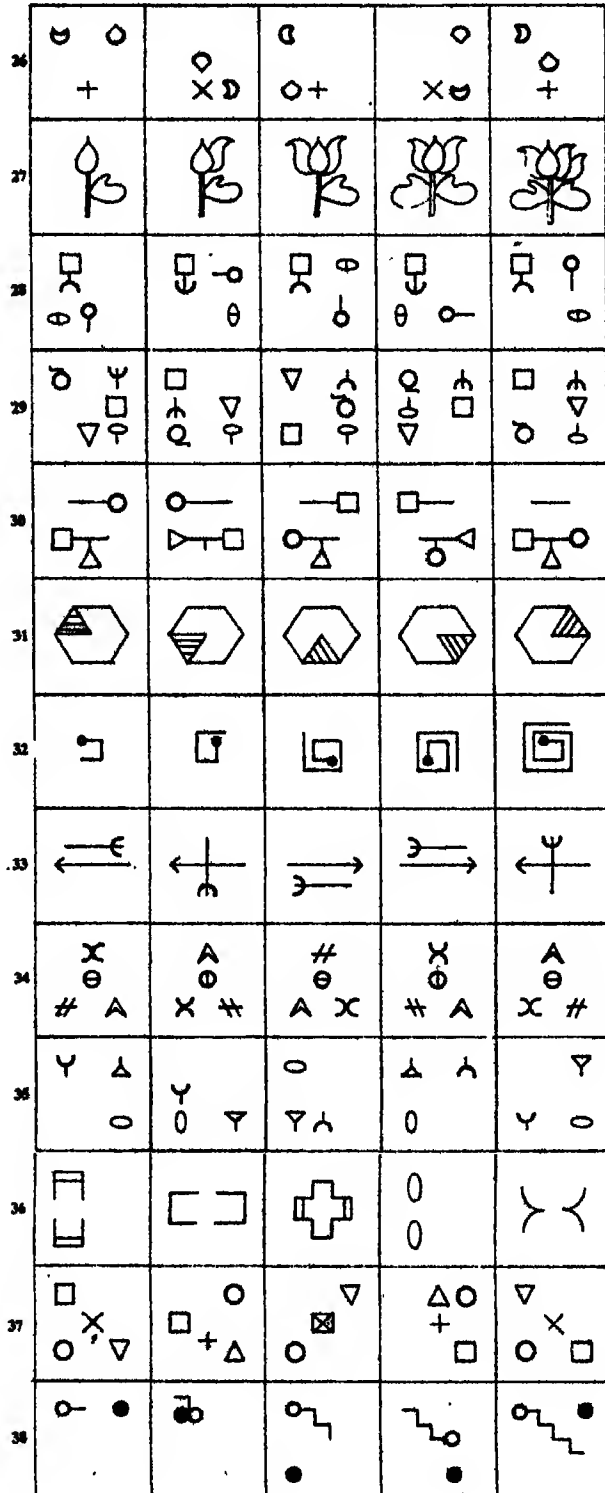
- | | |
|----------|----------|
| (a) TEAR | (b) HATE |
| (c) CARE | (d) ARC |
| (e) RATE | |

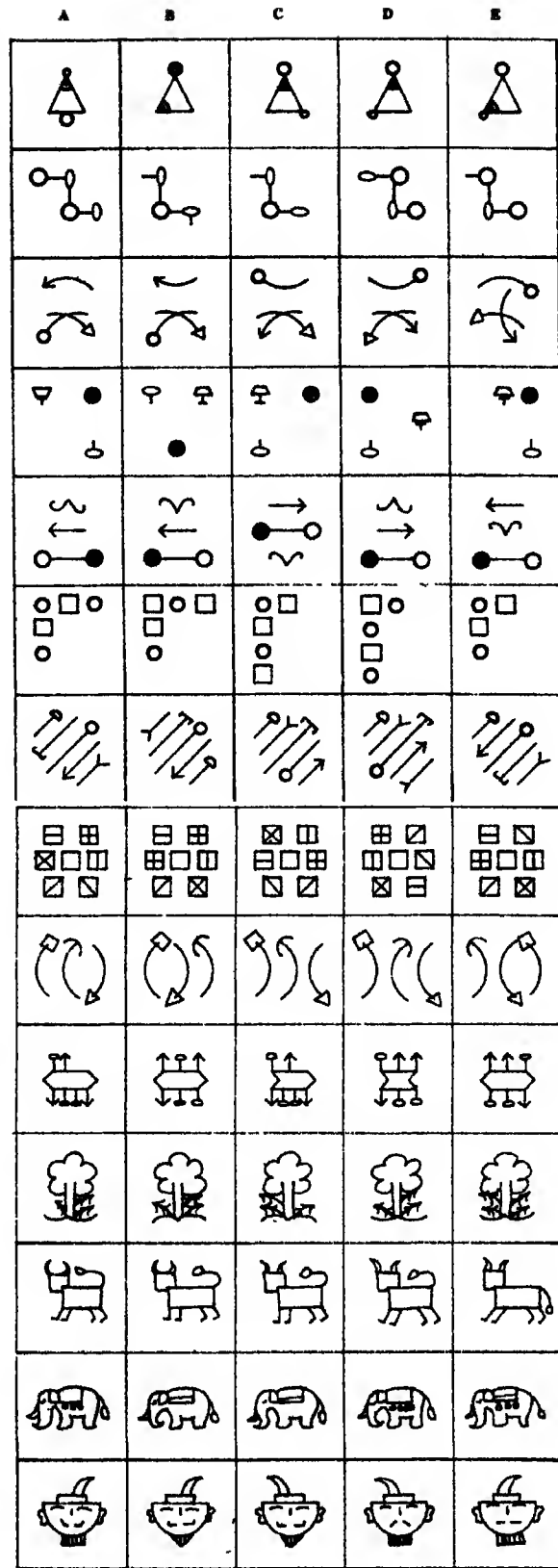
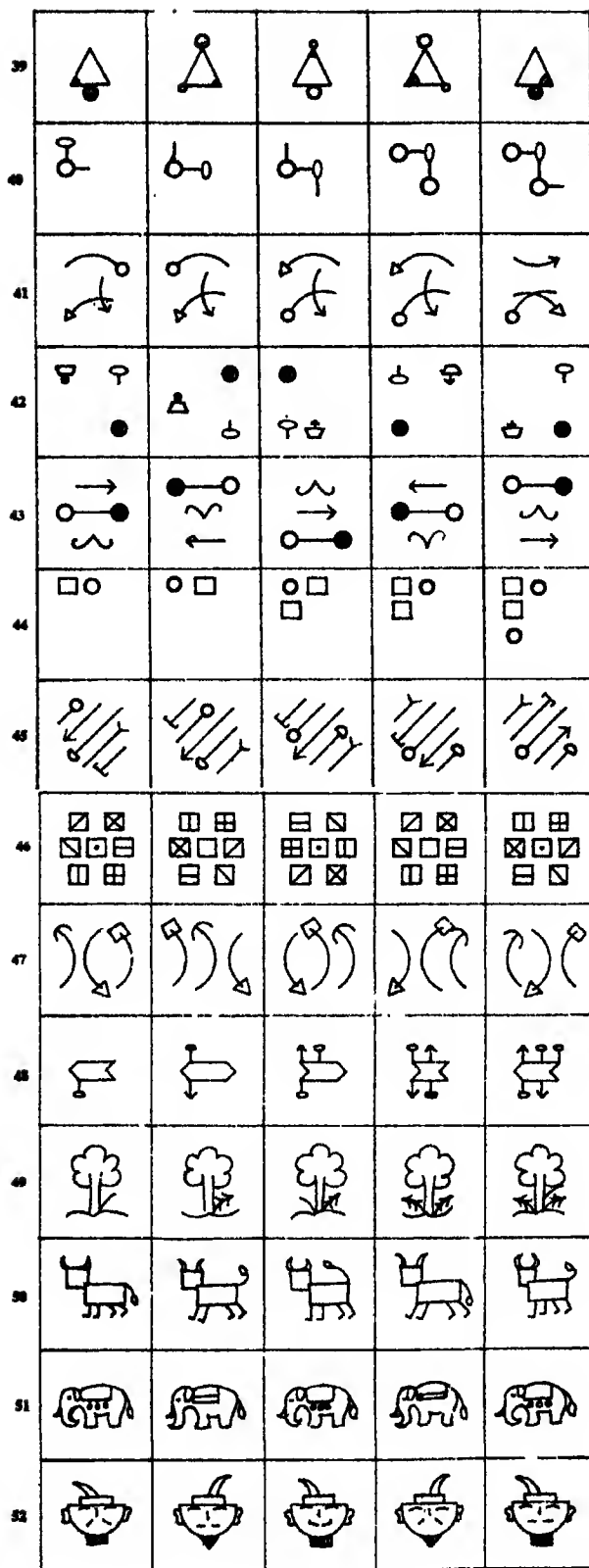
NON-VERBAL SERIES

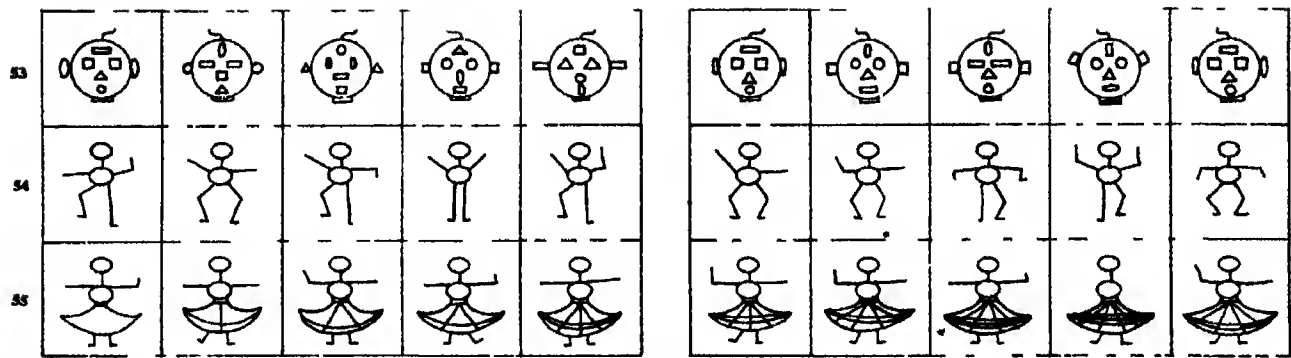
Given below are two sets of figures, the Problem Figures and the Answer Figures marked A, B, C, D and E. You have to find out which of the Answer Figures would be the next one in the series of Problem Figures.

PROBLEM FIGURES

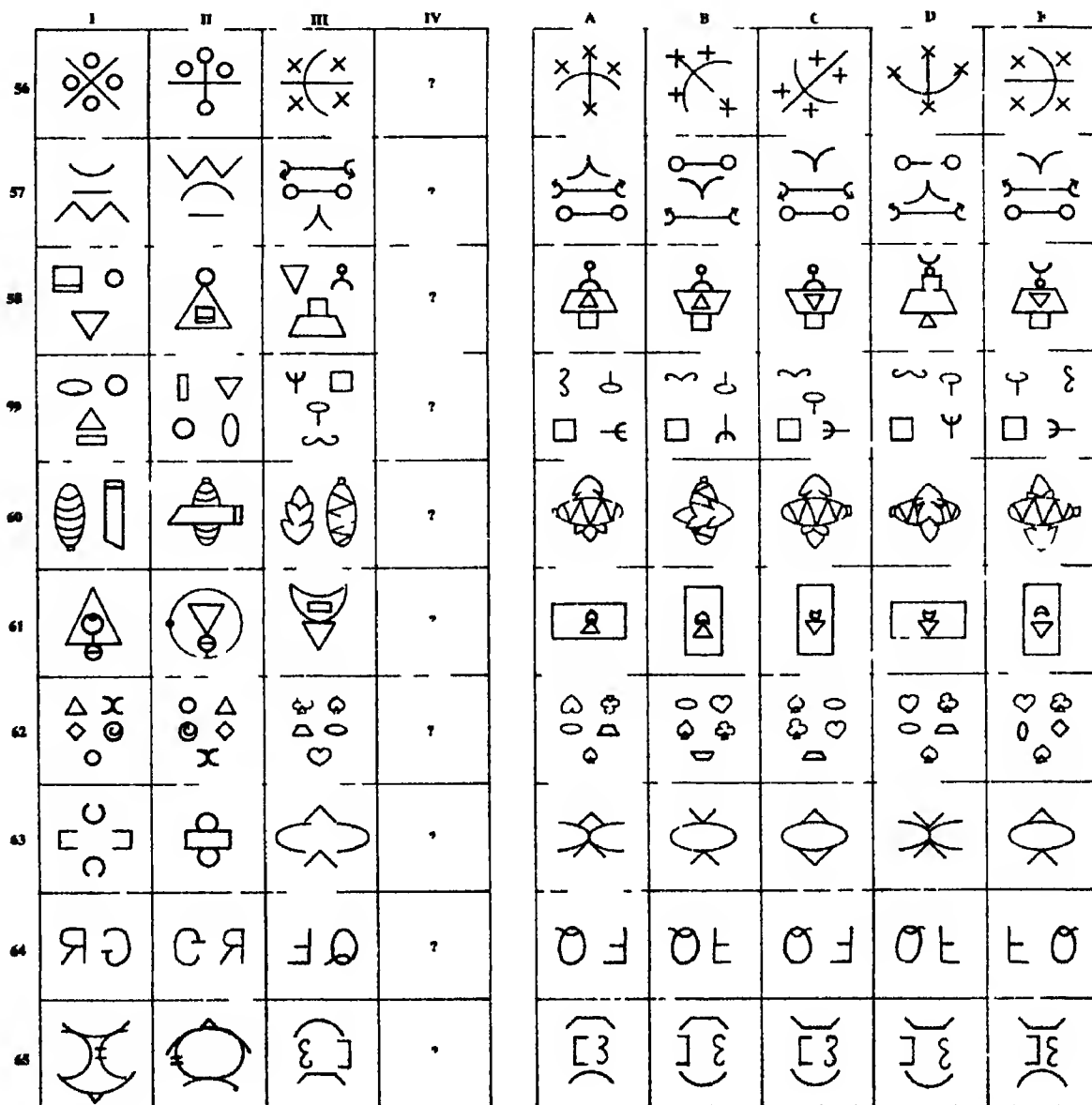
ANSWER FIGURES







In questions 56 to 65, the figures I and II have a definite relationship. You have to find out which of the figures from the set of the Answer Figures marked A, B, C, D and E has the same relationship with the figure numbered III.



Find the odd-man out:

	A	B	C	D	E
66					
67					
68					
69					
70					
71					
72					
73					
74					
75					

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

- (c) Go on adding 7, 14; 21... to numbers, hence 52 should be 51
- (a) The numbers are 10^2 ; 9^2 ; 8^2 ; 7^2 ...
- (d) Each number is the total of its two preceding numbers.
- (a) The numbers have the arrangement 2^2 ; 2^3 ; 3^2 ; 3^3 ; 4^2 ...
- (c) The series follows the serial arrangement of prime numbers but 15 is divisible by 3 and 5.
- (a) 7. (c) 8. (d) 9. (c) 10. (b)
- (e) The series is acba/acba/ac...
- (e) The series is abc/bca/abc/bca/...
- (a) The series is bacac/bacac/ba...
- (c) All the others are x^3 ; x .
- (c) In all the others, the digits of the number are reversed.
- (c) The ratio among all the other numbers is 3 : 4.
- (e) All the others are $2x$; x^2 .

For questions 18 to 22 write the alphabets and number them from both the ends, then see the relationship among

letters/numbers.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P
 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11
 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26
 Q R S T U V W X Y Z
 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

- (d) 19. (b) 20. (c) 21. (c) 22. (d)
- (c) CA, AC and TR
- (d) All the others are made with letters from the key word. This one has an additional T.
- (a) In all the others, the order of the letters picked up to form the word does not change.

Questions 26 to 55. For answering these questions, you have to observe and study each of the figures individually as well as in the relationship of other figures. The following points might help in finding out the right answer:

- Each figure in the question may move along certain points. They might rotate, swing or tilt during these movements. Some figures may not move but change position at the same place. (Example Qs. 26, 28, 29, 34, 37, 42 etc.)
 - Some figures in the same question may interchange places clock-wise and some anti-clockwise, while in others the figures may just interchange position or some of them may remain at their place only (Example Qs 29, 34, 46, 53 etc.)
 - The pace at which each individual figure moves is of great importance. It may move at a regular pace or might gain/lose a step extra during the pace. It may do so alternately too. (Examples, 30, 37 etc.)
 - Some figures may be added or dropped according to a set pattern. (Examples, Qs 27, 38, 40, 44, 48, 49 etc.)
 - In some questions, the first three figures have a definite pattern; the same rule would be applied to the next set of figures. (Example, Q. 36).
 - For human and animal figures, mark each position carefully to find out which of the parts change and how. The rules in this change would be the same as above. Study the position of hands/arms/legs/tail/horns and face etc.
- A 27. D 28. D 29. B
 - B 30. C 31. C 32. E 33. C
 - A 34. A 35. D 36. A 37. B
 - F 38. F 39. D 40. C 41. B
 - E 42. E 43. B 44. E 45. C
 - D 46. E 47. A 48. A 49. D
 - D 50. D 51. C 52. B 53. E
 - A 54. A 55. E 56. B 57. E
 - C 58. C 59. A 60. C 61. B
 - D 62. D 63. A 64. C 65. D
 - E. The triangle is inverted.
 - B. The number of dots on the pot and number of leaves ought to be the same.
 - D. All the others are liquid containers while the plate is used for other type of food.
 - B. The lines of the pattern are in wrong direction.
 - C. Right arm and right leg ought to be in the same position.
 - D. The direction of fan and the figure with an arc are wrong.
 - A. The inner figures have only one side less than the outer figure. This one has two.
 - D. One of the figures ought to have one side extra.
 - C. In all the others legs have the same bent while arms are in different position. Here the case is opposite.
 - A. In all the others, one letter remains as it is, in this one all are reversed.

TEST OF REASONING—II

Find the odd-man out:

1. (a) trident (b) triumph (c) tripod
(d) triangle (e) trisect
2. (a) puppet (b) documentary (c) animation
(d) feature (e) commentary
3. (a) needle (b) pencil (c) spade
(d) candle (e) spoon
4. (a) basket (b) barrel (c) bag
(d) bucket (e) barrow
5. (a) glisten (b) knife (c) psychology
(d) filament (e) fasten
6. (a) genius (b) geyser (c) gesture
(d) revenge (e) religion
7. (a) microphone (b) microscope
(c) binoculars (d) spectacles (e) lens
8. (a) pew (b) altar (c) mettle
(d) choir (e) pulpit

In questions 9 to 16, the two words given in each question have a specific relationship. Your task is to find out from (a), (b), (c) and (d) the pair of words with identical relationship.

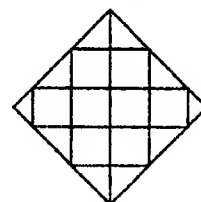
9. trigonometry : Mathematics
(a) history : geography (b) language : expression
(c) moon : sun (d) phonetics : speech
10. tranquilizer : relaxation
(a) dream : sleep (b) punishment : reform
(c) love : liking (d) water : rain
11. bed-sheet : shirt
(a) shoes : socks (b) house : brick
(c) rainbow : clouds (d) paraffin : vaseline
12. profuse : scanty
(a) punctual : late (b) ailment : death
(c) vast : huge (d) regular : habit
13. brain : thought
(a) road : foot-path (b) joy : happiness
(c) field : corn (d) chair : table
14. navy : air-force
(a) science : botany (b) archives : architecture
(c) physics : chemistry (d) hospitals : doctors
15. surfing : sea
(a) walking : feet (b) ski : snow
(c) row : boat (d) teeth : chew
16. music : ear
(a) rash : skin (b) eyes : lashes
(c) tongue : teeth (d) dance : feet

Match questions 17 to 22 with (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) on the basis of similar relationship:

17. cold : geyser : heater
(a) gibbous : moon : crescent
18. pesticides : manure : irrigation
(b) umbrella : hat : sun
19. sofa : bed : comfort
(c) commerce : science : faculty

20. brown-sugar : drug : smack
(d) food : medicine : exercise
21. coal : oil : sun
(e) trees : shade : shed
22. frown : smile : face
(f) pollution : dirt : insect

Questions 23 and 24 are based on the figure given below:



23. How many squares are there in the figure?
(a) 8 (b) 9 (c) 10 (d) 11 (e) 12
24. How many triangles are there?
(a) 10 (b) 14 (c) 18 (d) 20 (e) 24

In questions 25 to 30, the word 'BANKRUPT' has been coded in six different ways. The word THOUSAND has also been coded in similar ways but not in the same order. Your task is to match the codes of the word BANKRUPT with those of the word THOUSAND.

BANKRUPT	THOUSAND
25. PTRUNKAB	(a) DSANHOUT
26. ABMLQVOU	(b) CMZRTNGS
27. TRUPANKB	(c) NDSAOUTH
28. CBOISVQU	(d) SINVRBME
29. TBPAUNRK	(e) UIPVTBOE
30. SOTQJMZA	(f) DTNHAOSU

31. In a certain room, there are some goats and birds. If the total number of legs is 120 and the number of birds is six more than the number of goats, how many goats are there?

- (a) 24 (b) 26 (c) 20
(d) 18 (e) None of these

Raman started from his home on his bicycle towards east and after going two kilometres he reached the place A. From A he turned right and after one kilometre he again turned right, went another kilometre and reached the place B. Then he turned left and after cycling for two kilometres he reached the place C. From C he turned right and after going one kilometre he reached his destination D.

32. How far is Raman's home from D as the crow flies?
(a) 1 km (b) 2 kms (c) 3 kms

- (d) 4 kms (e) $\sqrt{1^2 + 3^2}$ kms

33. If Raman stopped at each point between his home and his destination for 2 mts and his average speed was 15 km per hour, how much time did he take in reaching his destination?

- (a) 36 mts (b) 34 mts (c) 32 mts
(d) 30 mts (e) None of these

* Qs. 34 and 35 are based on the following information:

C earns less than D who earns less than E.

A earns more than E but less than B.

34. Who among A, B, C, D and E has the highest income?

- (a) A (b) B (c) D
(d) E (e) Can't be established

35. Which of the following statements is wrong?

- (a) E is shorter than C.
(b) B is taller than D but shorter than E.
(c) D is taller than A.
(d) All the above are right.
(e) All the above are wrong.

Amit's birthday falls on 27th August. His father's birthday too falls on the same day of the week but in the last week of October. Amit's mother's birthday is exactly 19 days before the birthday of his father. His sister's birthday is exactly in the middle of Amit's birthday and the mother's birthday.

36. What is the date of birth of Amit's father?

- (a) 28th Oct (b) 29th Oct (c) 30th Oct
(d) 31st Oct (e) None of these

37. On which date is Amit's sister's birthday?

- (a) 18th Sept (b) 19th Sept (c) 1st Oct
(d) 16th Sept (e) None of these

Five girls, Madhu, Arti, Kanan, Rekha and Suman are married to Mahesh, Yogesh, Ravi, Mukesh and Gyan, but not in the same order.

First letters of the names of couple are not the same.

Arti and Kanan are not married to Yogesh.

Suman is not married to Mukesh.

Yogesh and Gyan are not Suman's or Madhu's husbands.

Kanan's and Rekha's husbands' names do not start with

'M'.

38. Who is Ravi's wife?

- (a) Madhu (b) Arti (c) Kanan
(d) Rekha (e) Suman

39. Who is Arti's husband?

- (a) Mahesh (b) Yogesh (c) Mukesh
(d) Ravi (e) Gyan

40. Which of the following statements is wrong?

- (a) Gyan is married to Kanan.
(b) Suman is not Mukesh's wife.
(c) Arti is not Ravi's wife.
(d) Rekha is not Yogesh's wife.
(e) All are correct.

SYLLOGISMS

In each question below are given two statements followed by four conclusions numbered I, II, III and IV. You have to take the two given statements to be true even if they seem at variance from commonly known facts. Read all the conclusions and then decide which of the given conclusions logically follow from the two given statements, disregarding commonly known facts.

Statements:

41. 1. All books are rockets.
2. Some rockets are planets.

Conclusions:

- I. Some books are planets.

II. All books are planets.

III. No book is a planet.

IV. All planets are rockets.

A. Only I follows.

B. Either I or III follows.

C. Either II or IV follows.

D. Both I and II follow.

E. None follows.

Statements:

42. 1. All carpets are tables.

2. All tables are stools.

Conclusions:

I. All carpets are stools

II. All tables are carpets

III. All stools are tables.

IV. Every stool is either carpet or table.

A. Only I follows.

B. Only II follows.

C. Only III follows.

D. Only I, II and III follow.

E. Only IV follows.

Statements:

43. 1. Some animals are reptiles.

2. Some birds are reptiles.

Conclusions:

I. Some birds are animals.

II. Every reptile is either an animal or a bird.

III. Some reptiles are birds as well as animals.

IV. No animal is a bird.

A. Only I follows.

B. Only IV follows.

C. Only II and III follow.

D. Either I or IV follows.

E. Either II or III follows.

Statements:

44. 1. All trees are straight.

2. All mountains are straight.

Conclusions:

I. Some trees are mountains.

II. All mountains are trees.

III. All straight things are either trees or mountains.

IV. Some straight things are trees as well as mountains.

A. Only I follows.

B. Either III or IV follows.

C. Only IV follows.

D. Only III follows.

E. None follows.

Statements:

45. 1. All bottles are cups.

2. All cups are jars.

Conclusions:

I. All bottles are jars.

II. All cups are bottles.

III. All jars are cups.

IV. All jars are bottles.

A. Only I follows.

B. Only II follows.

- C. Only III and IV follow.
- D. Only III follows.
- E. None follows.

Statements:

- 46. 1. Some sheets are pillows.
- 2. Some pillows are quilts.

Conclusions:

- I. Some quilts are pillow as well as sheet.
- II. No quilt is pillow as well as sheet.
- III. No quilt is a sheet.
- IV. Some quilts are sheets.
- A. All the four follow.
- B. Any one of the four follows.
- C. None follows.
- D. Either II or III follows.
- E. Either I or IV follows.

Statements:

- 47. 1. Some stones are benches.
- 2. All benches are flowers.

Conclusions:

- I. No flower is stone.
- II. All flowers are benches.
- III. Some flowers are stones.
- IV. All benches are flowers.
- A. Only I follows.
- B. Only II follows.
- C. Only III follows.
- D. Only III and IV follow.
- E. None follows.

Statements:

- 48. 1. All trains are engines.
- 2. Some pumps are engines.

Conclusions:

- I. Some pumps are not engines.
- II. Some engines are trains.
- III. Every engine is either train or pump.
- IV. All trains are pumps.
- A. Only I and II follow.
- B. Only II and III follow.
- C. Either I or II follows.
- D. All the four follow.
- E. None follows.

In each question below is given a statement followed by three assumptions numbered I, II and III. An assumption is something supposed or taken for granted. You have to consider the statement and the assumptions and decide which of the assumptions is implicit in the statement. Then decide which of the answers is correct.

Statement:

49. "Sonali's father is thinking of giving her a wrist watch as a birthday present, now what should I give her on that day?" A asks B.

Assumptions:

- I. Sonali does not have a wrist watch.
- II. A was himself thinking of giving Sonali a wrist watch.
- III. A wants his birthday gift to be as impressive as the wrist watch.
- A. Only I is implicit.
- B. Only II is implicit.

- C. Only III is implicit.
- D. Only I and III are implicit.
- E. All are implicit.

Statement:

50. "In ancient times, India provided Cambodia with a base to build a civilisation, gave it the language and script of Sanskrit which remained their language till 14th century", a report.

Assumptions:

- I. Sanskrit is not the language of Cambodia now-a-days.
- II. After 14th century, Cambodia was invaded by some countries who brought a change in their language and culture.
- III. Sanskrit is not spoken in any other country except India now.
- A. Only I is implicit.
- B. Only I and II are implicit.
- C. Only II and III are implicit.
- D. Either II or III is implicit.
- E. None is implicit.

Statement:

51. All the great classical music singers belong to some 'gharana' or the other.

Assumptions:

- I. Most of the classical arts follow traditions.
- II. The famous *gharanas* have nothing in common.
- III. No one dares to make any experiment in classical music.
- A. Only III is implicit.
- B. Only II and III are implicit.
- C. Only I and II are implicit.
- D. All are implicit.
- E. Only I is implicit.

Statement:

52. "A team of horticulture scientists from all over the world is going to visit Haryana to see the potato seed production in the State", a report.

Assumptions:

- I. The farmers of Haryana have made some amazing research in the production of potato seed.
- II. Potato is eaten all over the world.
- III. Some experiments in the field of potato seed production are being carried out in Haryana under the guidance of some international Horticulture Agency.
- A. Only I is implicit.
- B. Only II is implicit.
- C. Only III is implicit.
- D. Either I or III is implicit.
- E. All are implicit.

Statement:

53. "Every sensible international agency has been urging the Pak government to stop aid to Jammu and Kashmir ultras for years", a report.

Assumptions:

- I. Terrorism is basically not encouraged by sensible people.
- II. The whole world knows that the Pak government is helping the ultras with money, arms and ammunition.

III. All such pleas usually fall on deaf ears.

- A. Only I and II are implicit.
- B. All are implicit.
- C. Either II or III is implicit.
- D. Only II and III are implicit.
- E. None is implicit.

Statement:

54. "The Asian Development Bank has promised to contribute 500 million dollars with involvement of Department of Environment to see that the Taj Mahal was not spoiled by pollution", a news item.

Assumptions:

- I. Most of the money from the fund will go into the pockets of ministers, officials and engineers.
 - II. The ADB is concerned about saving great monuments of the continent.
 - III. Pollution is spoiling the Taj.
- A. Only I is implicit.
 - B. Only II and III are implicit.
 - C. Only I and II are implicit.
 - D. All are implicit.
 - E. Either II or III is implicit.

Statement:

55. Winter rains are supposed to be good for crops.

Assumptions:

- I. Rains in other seasons spoil the crop.
 - II. Winter rains are often accompanied by hail storms which are good for crops.
 - III. After rains in winter, the temperatures drops down.
- A. Only I is implicit.
 - B. Only II is implicit.
 - C. Only III is implicit.
 - D. None is implicit.
 - E. All are implicit.

Statement:

56. Although the candidate 'X' always won from his constituency, he is not at all hopeful of winning this time.

Assumptions:

- I. Some scandals regarding 'X' have come in light.
 - II. The general wave is in favour of some other party.
 - III. The candidate did not fulfil the promises he had made to the people of his constituency.
- A. Either I or II is implicit.
 - B. Either II or III is implicit.
 - C. Any one of the three is implicit.
 - D. Only II is implicit.
 - E. All are implicit.

In each question below is given a statement followed by three courses of action numbered I, II and III. A course of action is a step or administrative decision to be taken for improvement, follow-up or further action in regard to the problem, policy, etc on the basis of the information given in the statement. You have to assume everything in the statement to be true, then decide which of the three suggested courses of action logically follows for pursuing.

Statement:

57. When the officials of a State went for a surprise inspection, they found that the construction of roads was poor

in quality and the pace of work was rather slow.

Courses of action:

- I. A show cause notice should be issued to the contractor.
 - II. More money should be sanctioned so that the quality of building material may be improved and the pace of work may be accelerated.
 - III. The whole unit responsible and connected with road building ought to be changed.
- A. Only I is implicit.
 - B. Only II is implicit.
 - C. Only I and II are implicit.
 - D. Only III is implicit.
 - E. All the three are implicit.

Statement:

58. Many young criminals confess that they learnt the technique of crime by watching some T.V. serial or by seeing some film.

Courses of action:

- I. Crime-based films should be banned all round the world.
 - II. Minute details of planning and committing of the crime successfully should not be shown.
 - III. These young criminals should be treated by showing them good films which propagate human and moral values, as films seem to impress them a lot.
- A. Only I and II are implicit
 - B. Only II is implicit.
 - C. Only II and III are implicit.
 - D. All the three are implicit.
 - E. None is implicit.

Statement:

59. In spite of constant warnings, the villagers have not stopped cutting trees for fuel.

Courses of action:

- I. Some other cooking fuel should be made available to them.
 - II. All the inhabitants of the houses where wood is used as cooking fuel, should be prosecuted.
 - III. All the trees should be protected with barbed wires.
- A. Only I is implicit.
 - B. Only II is implicit.
 - C. Both I and II are implicit.
 - D. Only III is implicit.
 - E. Only II and III are implicit.

Statement:

60. Some of the folk arts are dying.

Courses of action:

- I. The department established to preserve and promote art and culture should give financial support to folk artists.
 - II. Their products should be displayed in emporiums and cultural fairs for sale.
 - III. The artists of these arts should be acquainted with new techniques.
- A. Only I and II are implicit.
 - B. Only I is implicit.
 - C. Either I or III are implicit.

D. Either II or III is implicit.

E. Only III is implicit.

Statement:

61. The tendency of joining private tutorial classes is very much on increase and weighs rather heavy on parents' pockets.

Courses of action:

I. The quality of teaching should be improved in schools and colleges.

II. Schools and colleges should arrange special remedial classes for weak students.

III. Talented students should be given special attention by their institutions.

A. Only I is implicit.

B. Only I and II are implicit.

C. Only III is implicit.

D. Either II or III is implicit.

E. All are implicit.

Statement:

62. The High Court of a State has held the jail administration of an area guilty of human rights violations.

Courses of action:

I. The jail-staff should be suspended immediately for further action.

II. The persons responsible for the inhuman act should be whipped in front of the public.

III. The jail of that area should be shut down.

A. Only I and II are implicit.

B. Only I is implicit.

C. Only II and III are implicit.

D. Only III is implicit.

E. None is implicit.

Statement:

63. As soon as the construction of a road in the city is complete, workers from some other department come and start digging it for some other purpose.

Courses of action:

I. The department that digs the road should be asked to rebuild the road.

II. The collector of the city should try to form co-ordination among various departments so that the work of one department is not undone by the other.

III. If a road is constructed once, no such line should be sanctioned for that area that might bring damage to it.

A. Only I is implicit.

B. Only II is implicit.

C. Only III is implicit.

D. Only II and III are implicit.

E. Only I and II are implicit.

Statement:

64. It has come to the notice of some public men that the investigating team probing a scam against a leading public figure consists of some of his close relatives.

Courses of action:

I. The persons, who have come to know this fact should go to the press and impart the information to the newspapers.

II. The probing team should be allowed to continue their investigations and the integrity of the

members should not be doubted.

III. As soon as the fact is noticed by the authorities, they should change the members of the investigation team.

A. Only I is implicit.

B. Only II is implicit.

C. Only I and III are implicit.

D. Only I and II are implicit.

E. None is implicit.

Below is given a passage followed by several possible inferences which can be drawn from the facts stated in the passage. You have to examine each inference separately in the context of the passage and decide upon its degree of truth or falsity. Mark your answers:

A. if the inference is definitely true.

B. if the inference is probably true.

C. if data is inadequate, hence it is doubtful.

D. if probably false.

E. if definitely false.

Fearing extinction, the Karnataka film world took to the streets of Bangalore with all and sundry, from top stars to clapper-boy staging a demonstration for better treatment to the local movie industry. Pushed to a corner with falling revenues, non-availability of movie halls and domination of non-Kannada films in the State, the beleaguered celluloid industry suspended all its activities indefinitely until the intervention of the State Government. The procession was joined by thousands of fans and the busy central area of Bangalore was virtually jammed. The main demands are, making it mandatory for all cinema halls to screen the local language film for six months in a year, to exhibit only those non-Kannada films that have been screened elsewhere for 12 months atleast.

65. Clapper-boy is the lowest employee of the cinema industry.

A. ☐ B. ☐ C. ☐ D. ☐ E. ☐

66. Karnataka film stars are very popular in Bangalore.

A. ☐ B. ☐ C. ☐ D. ☐ E. ☐

67. Hindi movies are the main rivals of the Kannada films.

A. ☐ B. ☐ C. ☐ D. ☐ E. ☐

68. The demands of the Karnataka film industry people are not reasonable.

A. ☐ B. ☐ C. ☐ D. ☐ E. ☐

69. The base of films is celluloid.

A. ☐ B. ☐ C. ☐ D. ☐ E. ☐

70. The cinema halls of Bangalore give first preference to screen Kannada films.

A. ☐ B. ☐ C. ☐ D. ☐ E. ☐

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (b) In all the others 'tri' is used for three.

2. (e) All the others are connected with movies.

3. (d) All the others are instrumental in performing some action.

4. (e) All the others are containers.

5. (d) This is the only word among the rest which has no silent letter.

6. (b) In all the others, the pronunciation of 'ge' is the same.

7. (a) All the others are used for seeing better.

8. (c) All the other terms are connected with church.

9. (d) One is a branch of the other.
10. (b) The two have application and consequence relationship.
11. (d) Both are made from the same basic material.
12. (a) The words are antonyms.
13. (c) One originates in the other.
14. (c) They are two wings of the same item.
15. (b) The items have game and their base relationship.
16. (a) They have the item and the part it affects relationship.
17. (b) Two items are a check against the third one.
18. (d) All the three work for a common cause.
19. (e) Two of the items provide the third facility.
20. (c) Two of the items belong to the third general category mentioned.

21. (f) Just as the items in question are sources of energy, the other three are sources of spreading disease.

22. (a) Two of the items are phases of the third one.

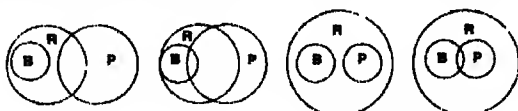
23. (d) 24. (d)

Qs. 25 to 30. In questions 25, 27 and 29, the letters of the word are jumbled and for other questions, the letters are coded by their preceding or following letters.

- | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 25. (c) | 26. (d) | 27. (a) | 28. (e) | 29. (f) |
| 30. (b) | 31. (d) | 32. (c) | 33. (b) | 34. (b) |
| 35. (e) | 36. (b) | 37. (a) | 38. (a) | 39. (c) |
| 40. (d) | | | | |

For the next set of questions, the best way to answer them is by drawing diagrams of all probable situations. Let each item be represented by a circle irrespective of their size, then one can reach the fool-proof answer. Some examples.

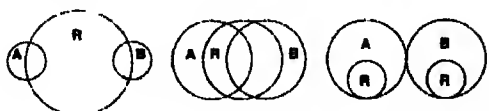
41. B.



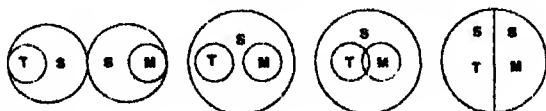
42. A.



43. D.

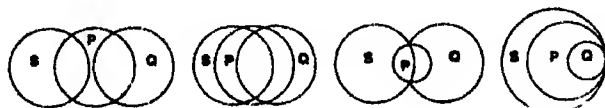


44. E.



45. A. (just like 42)

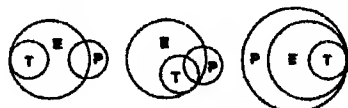
46. B



47. C.



48. A



- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 49. E | 50. B | 51. E | 52. D | 53. B |
| 54. B | 55. D | 56. C | 57. C | 58. D |
| 59. A | 60. A | 61. E | 62. B | 63. B |
| 64. C | 65. B | 66. A | 67. C | 68. D |
| 69. B | 70. E | | | |

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The Examiner's Guess Questions

Q. What is the name of the space station which completed ten years in space in 1996?

Ans. Russia's space station 'Mir'. It has completed 10 years and 2.5 billion km in space. It has outlived the Soviet Union which launched it and the US is now providing the funds to keep it in service.

Q. Which country is the second largest investor in India?

Ans. The cumulative figure of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the last four years was Rs 60,000 crore, out of which more than Rs 32,000 crore (\$11 billion) was made in 1995 alone. The US is the top investor, accounting for almost 25 per cent of the investments approved. There has been a spurt of investments from Israel last year and it has moved to second place accounting for investments of over Rs 4,000 crore.

Q. Who is the Pakistan's batsman who has become the only cricketer in the world to take part in all six World Cup cricket championships?

Ans. Javed Miandad, the 38 year old batsman, who has scored 7,327 runs in 228 one-day international matches.

Q. Which organisation plans to import electric toilets to India?

Ans. Electric toilets are proposed to be imported by Sulabh International, a social service organisation. The toilets use intense heat and reduce waste to stench-free ash and thus guarantees perfect sanitation without using water. The "Incinolet" was in use in the US and could become very popular in developing countries.

Q. What is the rate of economic growth that has been predicted in the 1995-96 Economic Survey?

Ans. 6.2 per cent.

Q. What is the level of stock market capitalisation in India?

Ans. The Indian stock market has the sixth largest capitalisation among the emerging markets after Taiwan, Malaysia,

South Africa, Korea and Brazil. The total market capitalisation is \$ 138.6 billion. The number of companies listed on the BSE at the end of December 1994 was 4,702. This was more than the total of companies listed in nine emerging markets.

Q. What was the level of jobs created in 1994-95?

Ans. An additional 7.18 million jobs were created in 1994-95, with the total jobs put at 320.51 million, according to the Economic Survey. The employment growth rate rose to 2.03 per cent during the year and is the highest in the last seven years.

Q. What is the level of defence allocation for 1996-97?

Ans. Plan expenditure for 1996-97 has been increased to Rs 50,521 crore against Rs 48,500 crore for 1995-96. A sum of Rs 27,891 crore has been allocated for defence as against Rs 25,500 crore in 1995-96.

Q. Which academy in India will train the Prithvi crew?

Ans. The only institution in the sub-continent where fighter and attack helicopter pilots, air defence personnel and engineers are trained, the Tactics and Air Combat Development Establishment (TACDE) at Jamnagar will be entrusted with the task of training the surface-to-surface missile Prithvi crew.

Q. What is the purpose of the latest NASA probe launched recently?

Ans. NASA has launched an unmanned delta rocket, called Near, on a three year voyage to an asteroid Eros that may contain clues to the birth of the solar system.

Q. In the Chinese calendar, with what animal is 1996 associated?

Ans. Rat.

Q. Which commission was wound up by the Maharashtra government recently?

Ans. The Srikrishna Commission, going into the communal riots in Bombay.

Q. Where is Asia's largest railway station?

Ans. Asia's largest railway station became operational in Beijing with the inauguration of the \$ 600 million project by the Chinese Premier, Li Peng.

Q. Which picture has won the Golden Globe Award for the best motion picture?

Ans. "Sense and Sensibility", adapted from Jane Austen's novel, has won the Golden Globe Award for best motion picture and screenplay, while Mel Gibson won the best director award for "Braveheart". John Travolta was the best actor and Nicole Kidman the best actress.

Q. What is the size of the Indian middle class?

Ans. According to the Indian Readership Survey 1995, the Indian middle class consists of 140 million people. The middle class is defined as segment with an income of above Rs 3,000 per month.

Q. What does the 81st amendment relate to?

Ans. It places land reforms laws in seven states under the Ninth Schedule so that they are not challenged in a court of law.

Q. Who is the author of *Tryst with Terror - Punjab's Turbulent Decade*?

Ans. V.N. Narayanan, editor of the *Hindustan Times*.

Q. Who is the winner of Jnanpith award for 1995?

Ans. Malayalam writer M.T. Vasudevan Nair, editor of the *Mathrabhoomi* group.

Q. Which film won the Golden Peacock in the 27th Film Festival of India?

Ans. Hong Kong film "Blush" directed by Li Shao-Hong won the Golden Peacock for the best film in the special competitive section for Asian women film makers.

Q. Who was the chief guest at the 1996 Republic Day celebrations of India?

Ans. Brazilian President Fernando Henrique Cardoso.

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APPOINTED, ELECTED ETC

Rene Preval President of Haiti. He took power in Haiti's first peaceful and democratic change of guard.

Abdul Karim Al Kabariti Chosen as Prime Minister of Jordan by King Hussein, replacing Zeid Bin Shaker.

Sahib Singh Verma He was appointed Chief Minister of Delhi after the resignation of Madan Lal Khurana.

Narash Chandra Former Gujarat Governor, he has been appointed India's Ambassador to the US.

RESIGNED

R K Dhawan Minister of State for Urban Development.

Kamal Nath Union Textiles Minister.

Madan Lal Khurana Chief Minister of Delhi.

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Matti Vuorio Finland's Secretary General of Trade.

DEAD

Prakash Chand Sethi Former Union Minister and Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh.

Hand Ngor Actor and Cambodian refugee, whose award-winning performance in "The Killing Fields" mirrored his own ordeal of torture and survival in Khmer Rouge death camps. He was found shot dead outside his home in Los Angeles.

Gene Kelly Actor, dancer, singer and director, a consummate showman who transformed American dance. He died at the age of 83 in Los Angeles.

EVENTS

FEBRUARY

10—Prime Minister Narasimha Rao dedicates INSAT 2C to the nation.

—The Irish Republican Army (IRA) ends the 17 month ceasefire by detonating a bomb at Canary Wharf Tower in London, Britain's tallest office building, killing two people and causing enormous damage.

11—The world's biggest cricket event, the Wills World Cup 1996, is inaugurated at Eden Gardens in Calcutta.

13—PLO chairman Yasser Arafat takes oath of office as the first Palestinian President after his landslide victory in elections.

16—Italian President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro dissolves Parliament and clears the way for national elections.

18—Delhi police seizes biggest haul of arms and ammunition, arresting a Swiss national and a Pakistan based Iranian.

—NASA launches a spacecraft on a three year voyage to the asteroid, Eros.

20—Hawala tainted Central Ministers Buta Singh and Arvind Netam resign.

22—CBI files chargesheets against 14 more politicians for allegedly receiving hawala pay-offs.

24—Saddam Hussein's two sons-in-law return to Iraq and are shot dead by members of their family.

25—At least 22 people are killed in two bomb attacks in Israel, by suspected Islamic bombers.

—Cuban fighters shoot down two planes belonging to a Cuban exile group in Miami.

28—Vote-on account railway budget presented.

29—BJP President Lal Krishan Advani is granted bail by Delhi High Court after non-bailable warrants are issued against him in the hawala scandal.

MARCH

1—Supreme Court frees CBI from the control of Prime Minister in the hawala case.

—Six politicians and 2 officials, against whom non-bailable warrants had been issued by the designated court, are granted bail by the Delhi High Court.

2—Blast in a hazardous factory in Delhi claims five lives.

—CBI conducts nationwide raids in the Puruba arms dropping case.

3—Home Ministry issues notices to 43 political and religious leaders of J&K, asking them to furnish details of foreign contributions received by them.

—At least 20 people are killed and 7 wounded in a powerful bomb explosion that ripped through a bus in Jerusalem.

4—Former Chief Minister Biju Patnaik is chargesheeted by Orissa's Vigilance Department under the Prevention of Corruption Act.

6—Report in US media says that Pakistan plans to conduct its nuclear test if India carries one out.

7—Parliament is stalled for the second day by Opposition demanding the PM's resignation on the hawala probe.

MILESTONES

Ruchi Sharma: The classical dancer, who created another world record by giving a non-stop Kathak performance for 15 hours at Mumbai. Her name already figures in the Limca Book of Records for making 5001 dancing rounds continuously in about 55 minutes.

Faraz Ahmed: Pakistani author, who inaugurated the 12th World Book Fair in New Delhi.

Dharamapal Barasingh Thapa: Chief of Army Staff of Royal Nepalese Army, who was conferred honorary rank of the Indian Army by the President, Dr S D Sharma.

J E Singh: Additional Advocate General of Jammu, who was ordered to be arrested by the Supreme Court on charges of contempt of court.

C S Khairwah: IAS Officer and Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Transport, who was arrested by the CBI on the charges of illegally transferring assets worth several crores of rupees.



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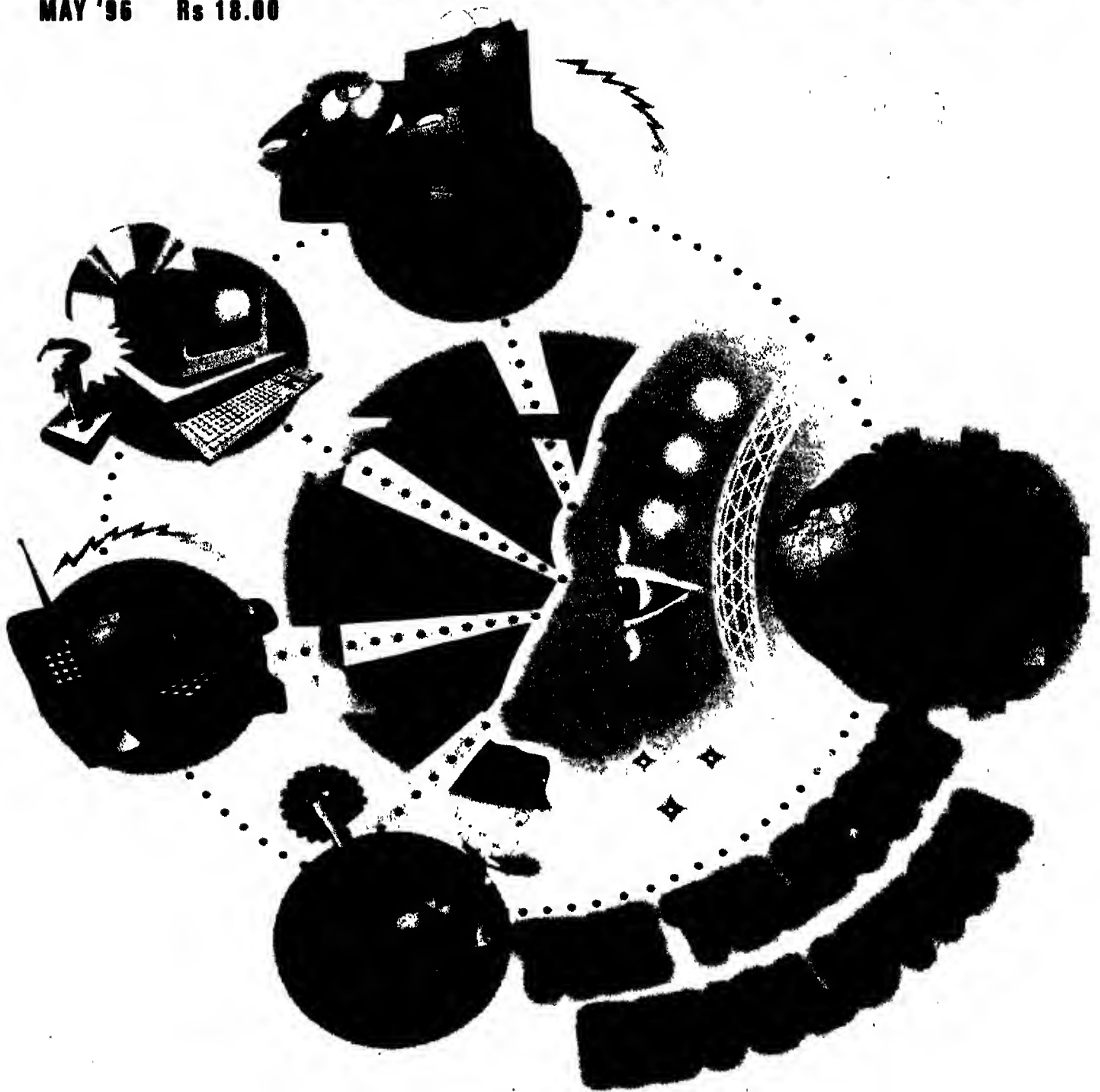
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THE COMPETITION

MASTER

From the Desk of the

Editor



Dear Masters,

One of the wonders of the modern age is the way that the world communicates. Like during the World Cup matches, information and pictures were digitised almost as soon as they occurred and were sent to all parts of the globe in a matter of seconds. Telephones enable us to talk to a person anywhere in the world, as also help transmit reams of data between computers connected to each other.

In all fields, technical skills are expanding at a very fast pace. Nowhere is this more evident than in the field of communications. A thin optical fibre carries trillions of bits of data per second much more cheaply than copper. Today, computers, communication and electronics have integrated in such a way that it is impossible to talk of any technology as separate and distinct.

Everything is linking up as a silent telecom revolution takes place across countries of the world. While selecting this month's cover story, this consideration was highest in our mind—keep our readers informed about developments taking place, explain the trends of human endeavour and answer questions that readers may have on an exploding technology. After all, we should not be ignorant of something that is around us and touches every day of our life.

The effect on our lives will be dramatic. Already, newspapers are being transmitted on the Internet. Increased competition the world over has led to better services and decrease in costs and the government would do well to introduce more competition so that technology and costs can open up the world to the average Indian.

As always, we pack our issue with features and information and we wish you all the best on your endeavours. Do let us have your comments and suggestions.

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Sinking Standards

Mr K.R. Narayanan, the Vice-President of the Republic, who presides over the proceedings in Rajya Sabha, has expressed anguish over the steeply sinking standards of personal behaviour of members of Parliament and of legislatures in various States of the Union. Mr Narayanan should know. So this is truth from the horse's mouth. The Vice-President was articulating the feelings of the right thinking citizens of the country when he observed that the unruly scenes in Parliament and legislatures of the country actually hold a mirror to the society we are living in. This is true symbolically as well as literally. Symbolically because we are living in a twilight society where old values have died or are decaying and new ones are yet to take shape. It is true literally because members of Parliament and legislatures go to august houses as representatives of the people. In this respect, they are 'good' and 'true' representatives of the people!

The present society, in the turmoil of transformation, suffers from a cluster of bad feelings namely anxiety, frustration and discontent. Additionally, there is avarice which has resulted in an unashamed scramble for spoils. The spate of scams seen by the nation in recent times, involving the high and the mighty, leaves no one in doubt that there are far too many hands in the national kitty.

When representatives of the people demonstrate an utter lack of elementary manners in the Houses, they are, in fact, mirroring the temper and time, and temper of the times. The reverse is also true as the people, taking their cue from their own representatives, indulge in similar or worse behaviour causing what Walter Lipman described as a society in which anything goes. The collective norms of decency and decorum which can be aptly defined as 'culture' of a nation are thus thrown into the dustbin. The common man begins to think and engage himself in a race of moral degeneration without a prick from his conscience. The representatives then acquire the status of symbols or role-models. One former Union minister, when being taken away to jail, made a victory (V) sign with his

fingers to his slogan-raising riff-raff. The depth into which the politician-hero can sink has been shown. Decency in public life, if a mere plastering, comes off sooner than later.

Apart from being anguished by the sordid trend, the Vice-President felt that this drift of degeneration could be used in such a way as to utilize it as a corrective measure. This may seem to be unrealistic but through a process of correction it could ultimately be knocked out of the system. Perhaps sublimation would be a better expression.

Some measures like 'educating' members in parliamentary norms were initiated. Some hand-picked senior parliamentarians were pressed into service to impart education to all members herded together—their own party members and those of others. This attempt would have been sad, if not laughable. The rot that has set in is not a symptom but the disease itself.

It started in 60's and has continued ever since with increasing tempo. Not the least important reason has been the falling quality of the individual the society is 'manufacturing' today. The stress on youth is "What do you want to become? A doctor? An engineer? A politician?" No one ever asks a

youngster "What kind of person you want to grow into?" If people's representatives come from cultural backwaters of society or with crime records, their plus points are not supposed to be skill in parliamentary debate, decency in behaviour or sweet reasonableness in face of opposition but lung-power, sound and fury signifying nothing, exchanging choice invective, fist-blows and verbal etching.

What Mr Narayanan has overlooked is that the disgusting behaviour in the Houses is only a miniature copy of such behaviour elsewhere throughout the country. The lowering of standards in public morality and norms from those who are supposed to set examples has become a malaise of the masses.

It is a mere extension of their conduct in society. The only pious hope one can entertain is that this will spend itself through what Aristotle called 'Catharsis'.



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READERS' FORUM

The best two letters of the month, appearing in the box, have been awarded a prize of Rs 100.00 each. Readers are invited to send us their views on topics covered in this issue. The decision of the Editors will be final.

SELLING THE NATION

Corruption has become widespread in our country. We should identify the root causes of corruption and do something about them. A sustained effort by political parties and individuals is necessary if we are to move towards a corruption-free society.

Manish Aurora
Mumbai

Some amount of corruption can well be tolerated, but the hawala scandal shows that it has crossed all decent levels. This will be fatal for our country if it is not checked immediately. The Supreme Court has done well to take the investigations under its charge.

Aparajit Banerji
24 Parganas, West Bengal

The hawala scandal has exposed many of our political leaders. Since the elections are near, it is up to the voters not to vote for candidates who have been involved in the scandal. In this way, political parties will learn what Abraham Lincoln once said, "You cannot fool all the people all the time."

Shalini Srivastava
Aligarh, U P

In developed countries, public opinion plays an important role in controlling scandals. India still lacks a strong public opinion. Martin Luther King said, "It is not the violent action of the bad people, but the appalling silence and the indifference of the good people which is more dangerous."

V Bala N Murthy
East Godavari, A P

In the present scandal, the judiciary

has served as a silver lining to the cloud. It is no small mercy that institutions still stand strong in India which can uphold democratic values.

Arun Kumar Rai
Allahabad, U P

Your editorial proves that education is not merely the information we put into our heads, where it lies undigested, but what part of it we are able to use. According to Swami Vivekananda, education should help in producing the modern man—inculcating morality, ability, nobility—and this is what is required in the education system.

Ashok Kumar Singh
Calcutta

WOMEN IN POLICE

We should not make a distinction between men and women for employment in any service, including the police. What we require are intelligent persons who are trained in the technique of handling different classes of people. A person in the police should be able to perform tasks with sensitivity and modify actions according to the circumstances.

Elcie Hmar
New Delhi

The Indian woman is no longer weak and submissive. Her power is equal to that of a man. There is no reason why she cannot govern the community. I would say that there should be more women in the police force.

Kapil Misra
Chandigarh

INDIAN LITERATURE

The Nobel prize is not the only yardstick of good literature. Whether it is recognised by a Nobel prize or not, our literature reflects the Indian experience and there is great variety in that, which is greater than any Western recognition.

Pradeep K Mishra
Bhawanipatna, West Bengal

SAVING THE NATION

We should rediscover the ethics that we have lost and regain our moral values. Once we start implementing them in our daily life, we can rebuild the nation with a feeling of patriotism and humanity in our hearts.

Abhishek Sripathy
Hardoi, U.P.

ABERRATIONS IN EDUCATION

The decline of the education system is due to two factors. First, the education imparted neither encourages genuine enquiry nor is helpful in getting jobs. The second is the commercialisation of teaching. Any attempt to improve the system must take into account these two factors. Only then can a drastic change be effected in the quality of education in our country.

Dilip Giri
Cuttack, Orissa

The decline of Indian literature reflects the intellectual bankruptcy we have in all fields. The decline of regional languages shows that English has come to dominate our thinking even though it is not our language.

Indrajit Kumar
Bhagalpur, Bihar

CM FEATURES

While there is a decline all around, the *Competition Master* encourages high thinking. One really cannot be modern without morals. Your articles in this direction are most welcome.

M Sahu
Behrampur, Orissa

REQUEST TO READERS

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The Telecom Revolution

There was a time, not very long ago, when telephones were an electro-mechanical device. Exchanges were full of operators without whom a call could not be connected. There were few phones available; one would have to trudge to the post office to make a call.

The service left much to be desired. Lines were downed often so that the phone could be in working order. There were frequent complaints of over-billing and phone dis-
orders. But, customers discovered that nothing could be done about all this, since tele-
phones were a State monopoly.

The telecommunications revolution promises to change all that. Today, exchanges are automatic. The instruments have changed to smart handsets that no longer have to be wound. The telephone has become mobile, with those it provides of such wonderful things like voice-mail, cellular phones and pagers. State monopoly of communications is ending as a host of international players enter the market.

In India the revolution has just about begun. STD booths at every corner enable you to make quick calls anywhere in the world and fax messages sent the next just about any-
where. The future is equally exciting, where the prices of making calls will reduce and the telephone will become affordable to most sections of the society.

Welcome to the telecom revolution. Our cover features describe all that you wanted to know about the changing technology and the shape of things to come.

phones in India were long limited by rickety lines. That can now be overcome by using optical cables, which provide enormous possibilities. Apart from transmitting telephone signals, they can also transmit data and video pictures. The possibilities are endless.

In more and more coun-tries, cable television and tele-
phone are being provided together. This makes tele-
phone services cheap but get-
ting the fragmented cable
operators to come together is
a huge task. In the US, cable
and telephone companies are
actually trying up to provide
services through common
cables

Telecommunications is perhaps the most breathtaking business of the twentieth century. The ubiquitous tele-
phone is being freed of its wires while new products like pagers help you keep in touch at all times. Computer and entertainment networks entail faster and better communica-
tion and they will integrate their services. At the same time, costs are being pushed down the world over and innovative services are being introduced almost as fast as people can buy them. With the world becoming a global

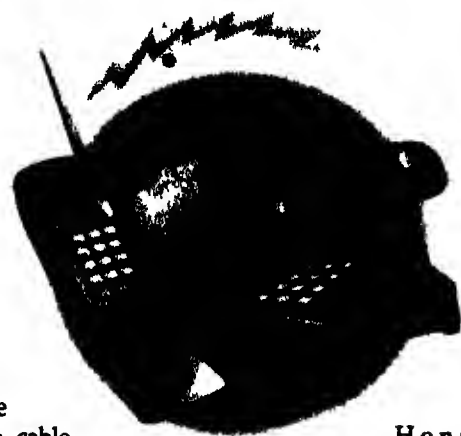
village, where everything is linked together, the impor-
tance of communication was never so great.

In fact, the telecom revo-
lution links together technolo-
gies which till now were con-
sidered distinct. Computers
are already connecting to
each other through indepen-
dent networks and the
Internet has not only made
communication easier but
redefined the way people
relate to each other. Suddenly, the telephone has
competition; it has been dis-
placed from being the sole
provider of instant communi-

cation.

At the same time, cable has liked homes to provide entertainment and other ser-
vices. The future holds forth the vision of a single net-
work providing all the ser-
vices that a home would need.

The interconnection has now become a reality. Tele-



The Hong Kong Telecom is offering digitally switched network which allows homes to order films, pause or rewind, through the click of a mouse. Banking may be the next service to go on cable. Telephone companies are, thus putting more and

more services on networks. How much integration takes place depends on service providers. In France, Minitel offers 26,000 services, including directory enquiries and rail time-tables.

Technological changes

The technological change sweeping telecom has been phenomenal. The most important advancement has been that of fibre optics, which has resulted in exponential increase in capacities. These wonder fibres, thinner than a human hair, can carry 30,000 simultaneous telephone conversations. To lay the cable may cost the same as copper but is easier to maintain and represents a quantum jump in terms of traffic.

The second is the transformation of telephone exchanges, called switches. The operator who would help you connect, is a thing of the past. Today, exchanges resemble computers, handling the calls on their own. Their capacities have also increased exponentially.

These changes have opened immense opportunities. New cables have been laid across the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and between cities. Another project, the Fibre-optic Link Around the Globe (FLAG) is also under progress. The growth in capacity means that busy telephone lines may be a thing of the past and there may be no waiting list for new connections.

Another effect of the technological progress will be on costs. Running the net-

work will be cheaper and is likely to have an effect on prices of calls. Like the computer industry, which has offered more and more powerful machines at lesser cost, the growth in the telecom industry will result in benefits to the customer. In the US, the cost of long distance calls have halved and in Sweden the cost of a call made long distance (1400 km) is the same as a call made to a place 80 km away. It may seem strange, but it may become possible to talk

anywhere in the world for the cost of a local call.

The pressure on costs will also be through the Internet. Communicating through the Internet, costs virtually nothing, so telephone companies will be forced to reduce their prices if they are not to lose out to Internet. In fact, a software is already available which enables telephone calls to be made over the Internet. The earlier software required both parties to speak in turns, but this has changed and the new software allows ordinary telephone conversations.

If price differentials are great, people will use the phone less and choose the Internet instead. Telephone companies will thus have to

reduce prices for calls but might add other services to the telephone line. Though a subscriber may pay little for the telephone, if he buys a value added service, he would pay extra.

The value addition could result from several services, such as providing cable television through telephone networks or vice versa. Since it is possible to send television signals through optical cables, doing both things together will be cheaper.

Another technological



change may even make the cables redundant, at least for local distribution. This change is wireless transmission. An antenna fixed at home may be tuned to a base station and receive signals intended for the particular home. Such system of wireless access are being developed by various companies. Should that happen, cable operators may be under threat. But how technology actually shapes the market remains to be seen.

The Indian Revolution

The revolution is also beginning in India. For years Indians had to struggle with the

inefficient service of the telephone department. However, now a host of private sector companies are poised to enter the market of the Plain Old Telephone Services (POTS) market. The first sign of change came in Rajiv Gandhi's time, when the technology mission was set up under Sam Pitroda. Telephones spread in the country, even as critics parroted the line about how the poor could use telephones. Today, the results of those efforts are visible. With telephone booths at every corner, employment for thousands of people has been generated.

The Centre for Development of Telematics was also set up (C-DoT) during Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's time. Some of the best talent was recruited and the C-DoT rose to the challenge of developing an Indian electronic exchange with success, though there were some overruns. However, Pitroda left the country a disappointed man after the then minister, Mr K.P. Unnikrishnan, got into a fight with him. C-Dot today is a decaying organisation, with the best talent having left to join multinational companies. The credit for disrupting India's fledgling telecom programme must go to Unnikrishnan. It was after Pitroda left that the government was forced to look at alternatives for telecom modernisation.

Today, it is the multinationals that rule the roost. With the privatisation of basic and value added telephone services, the scenario is poised for a change that could

not have been imagined a few years back.

Telecommunications are just not limited to the telephone. The computer, entertainment and communications markets are converging, and all kinds of companies are getting interested. There are no rules or experience to go by and the future remains wide open. Cable television has connected homes and offers an opportunity for communications. Indeed, multimedia (phones and cable television) may be using the same networks, providing a host of services. Telephone companies will thus have to work together with entertainment companies. And if international trends are taken into consideration, costs will substantially come down in the future.

The opportunity is fantastic. Penetration level of telephones in India in 1994 was just 9.1 phones per 1,000 people. The demand supply gap is expected to be 54 million lines by 1999. But, if the coverage is to increase to the level of even China's, at 1.53 per cent, the demand would be higher. The average telephone density in Asia is 5 per cent and should India reach that level, the revenues too would jump five-fold to around Rs 39,000 crore per annum.

With such a huge market, most of the big industrial houses are interested in telecom. The Birla group, Reliance, Tata, Goenkas as well as corporates like Videocon, BPL, Escorts, Max have registered a presence in the telecom sweepstakes. Multinationals from all over

the world, such as Bell of USA, Telstra of Australia, Singapore Telecom, New Zealand Telecom, Philippines Long Distance Company, are keen to enter what may be the biggest telephony market of the world. Since the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) limits equity holdings to 49 per cent, the multinationals have tied up with local Indian partners.

It is expected that DoT's poor services will force subscribers to switch to private service providers. In the present system, the waiting lists for telephones have been a part of life. People who are unable to get phones would take up services provided by private operators. The DoT would have to gear up to face the challenge of privatisation.

India would also see new technology faster. Companies would have to provide multimedia services in the future and to do this, would have to lay optical cables. A single cable would carry all the signals which would be diverted to the respective instruments in a subscribers home.

Marketing Wars

Since the market opened up, some high power advertising has been released by the players. There are three areas where the companies are

fighting for attention: services, consisting of basic services, cellular services and paging; consumer products, consisting of cellular phones, pagers, telephone instruments; and heavy equipment, consisting of exchanges and network devices.

The advertising budgets of the telecom companies are huge. The 15 paging service providers, 8 cellular service providers, 3 pager makers and 4 mobile phone producers found that educating the customer was a first step. A study by BPL mobile found that 47% of the respondents did not know the difference between a cordless and a cellular phone. Similarly, people were unaware of what paging actually was.



Essar took out a campaign to answer common questions that a person may have. Airtel spent

Rs 7 crore focussing on the utility of the cellular phone. Some innovative strategies have been thought of, like selling the service through cable operators and direct marketing.

The telephone instrument market is also witnessing some high pressure tactics by multinationals like Nokia and Motorola. The paging market is estimated to be around 1 million and here too companies are wooing customers with big campaigns.

However, the offtake has been slow. Cellular phones have been slow to grow and Motorola found it could get only half of the expected 1 lakh subscribers from the country. Airtel could get only 18,000 subscribers. Essar Cellphone gained 10,000 subscribers but considering the Rs 10 crore adspend, that was a small figure. The biggest shortfall is in Madras, which has 4,000 subscribers against the expected 35,000.

The companies clearly did not anticipate resistance to high prices. A handset costs minimum Rs 15,000 and the call charges may be as high as Rs 16.80 per minute. But, with projections gone awry, the market could see some fresh activity and reduction of charges.

India's Software Capital

Though concepts like cellphones are taking time to catch up in India, never was the need for better communications greater than now. Hesitantly, India is also entering sunrise industries like computer software. India's software industry now has a turnover of \$1.2 billion and is growing at 40% every year. About half of it accounts for exports to countries including USA. Software engineers need not fly to those countries for their work. Clients in USA simply e-mail their requirements to Bangalore and while they sleep, Indian engineers find the solutions. This is sent by e-mail back by the time offices open in USA.

Many multinationals have set up their facilities in Bangalore. Among them are Motorola, IBM, Texas Instruments, Siemens and Sun Microsystems. These companies account for 70 per cent of the investment in software development in Bangalore.

Clearly, such an industry depends on high level communications. If India has to develop this high-growth industry, infrastructure must be upgraded. At present companies have their own dedicated satellite links but if the telephone lines are upgraded, it will enable many small players to set up business. The telecom revolution will thus become an engine of growth for knowledge based industries and will help move our exports from low-skill to highly skilled value added work. Other countries in East Asia have already made the change and moved into high-skill work.

The level of infrastructure and cost of communication is likely to be the single most important economic force shaping society in the first half of the next century. The telecom revolution in India is already delayed but hopefully should catch up.

Privatisation Problems

The future may well be here. But it has not been without its share of controversy. The process of privatisation was stalled with the bungling of Communications Minister Sukh Ram who was alleged to have favoured a company,

the Himachal Futuristic Communications Ltd (HFCL). The Opposition stalled the winter session of Parliament asking for Sukh Ram's resignation. Though the Supreme Court later came to the government's rescue, questions remained.

The Opposition charged that undue favours had been given to HFCL. It claimed that by capping the number of circles allotted to a single company, HFCL gained. Earlier, the company would have to invest Rs 85,000 crore in license fee over the next 15 years. After the cap, the figure went down to Rs 27,000 crore. The Supreme Court judgement helped the controversy to die down. But the setting up of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been stalled and till that happens the ground rules will stay unclear. Even so, some basic issues of privatising have not been dealt with by the government.

For instance the government has tried to maximise the license fees charged from operators, without taking into account the requirements of the customer. The monopoly of long distance calls will still be with Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd and this will stand in the way of competitive pricing or reducing prices of calls to customers. The government seems to have gone against international experience that suggests that increased competition has only resulted in better and cheaper services.

An OFCD study has concluded that liberalisation not only reduced prices but

THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME

Optical Switching: Messages have traditionally been sent through electrons moving through copper wires. Now, optical cables make it possible for messages to travel at the speed of light. Messages now travel as pulses of light thereby making the process faster. But the complication arises when the messages have to pass through an exchange, which is electronic. The answer is the optical exchange, which has a semiconductor. When a pulse of light is flashed on it, the energy makes the electrons break free. Research is continuing on how to make optical exchanges more efficient.

Multimedia: Multimedia combines entertainment and communications. Private phone companies will transmit signals to homes using Hybrid Fibre Coax (HFC) technology, which permits cable TV and other multimedia signals like radio and teletext. HFC uses fibre optic cabling, which permits greater volumes of traffic. The video signal will be channelled to television while communication signal to the telephone. The same cable could be used to get access to the Internet. Phone companies who have licenses for basic telephony are planning to build HFC networks and will soon be bringing the infotainment highway into homes.

Pagers: A pager is one-way communication device. The caller leaves a message with the service provider on telephone. The company transmits the message through a radio signal to the pager of the person where it is displayed. The person owning the pager pays the company a fixed subscription for the service.

Cellphones: The cellular phone is a mobile phone which can be carried by a person wherever he goes. Though the service is provided by private companies, it is connected to the telephone grid so that calls can be made and received from existing telephones. The city is divided into cells where the call is transferred among base stations depending on where the person is at that moment. Charges are made according to the air-time used. Mobile phones display the number of the phone from where the call is coming, so that the person may or may not answer it. However, the mobile phones have had only a lukewarm response and have not picked up according to expectations.

V-Sat: Transmission of data over long distances is done through satellites. Data is bounced off satellites using very small aperture terminals (V-Sats). Though these are expensive, companies doing business over large areas without depending on telephone lines must use these. A hub is a large satellite dish antenna that receives and transmits signals to V-Sats. It controls the radio waves and switches signals to and from the V-Sats.

expanded the market and improved customer service. In India, the government owned telephone system is marked by inefficiencies and corruption and trying to protect VSNL may result in shortchanging the customer. By having a system of licensees, the government will be forced to restrict the entry of new entrants to protect those who have paid high license fees. This goes against the experience gained by countries across the world.

Though the government has reduced its shareholding in MTNL and VSNL, the public sector still dominates the telecom scene. The Athreya committee recommended that DoT should be turned into a corporation, but it is still a government department. Though there was initial progress on privatisation, the government still has to restructure DoT and the process received a setback due to the allegations of corruption.

The market, of course, finds its own solutions. In the US, there are 7,00,000 private networks. The spread of computers encourage networking and even in India large companies have started having their own networks. Asian Paints has a Wide Area Network (WAN) that connects its Bombay headquarters to its 50 warehouses. Distribution and inventory management becomes easier, while messages can be sent back and forth. Many other companies, in particular airlines, couriers and banks will have their own WANs. When the WANs are in direct competition with telephones, it is

cost that will make the vital difference and will decide which one will be used more frequently.

Impact on Business

Information is the central requirement of modern businesses. Improved communications will have an impact on society and business. Information about goods and services will be available from all over the country at a much greater speed.

The Bombay Stock Exchange recently began to send rates of shares to subscribers' pagers. It is only a matter of time before brokers, foreign currency dealers and stock exchanges can transmit information quickly and cheaply. The impact on business can well be imagined.

The government too is

waking up to this need. The DoT is planning to refurbish its data network, the I-Net. There are plans to connect 89 towns and cities initially, going up to 300 in the next three years. An investment of Rs 140 crore has been planned. If implemented, the I-Net will connect all paging operators, e-mail networks and international gateways. Theoretically, it will become possible to send data to any part of the country through a local call, but the I-Net is already considered obsolete and is plagued by bureaucratic delays. However, if such a system does succeed, it would integrate computers, pagers, cellular phones and the ordinary telephone.

Together with WANs, corporate India will easily be tracking inventory and materials while also controlling billing and payments. Philips plans to

connect its sales depots and outlets all over the country. Banks have already got their WANs where funds can be transferred or tracked in a matter of minutes. Indian business is slowly becoming international and the future belongs to the wired corporation.

Telecom in the future

A striking change taking place in telecom is the change to wireless systems. At present wired and wireless telephones coexist all over the world. Will mobile telephones replace the wired instrument? Since mobile phones are convenient, there may be a shift towards them, as is happening in Scandinavia. All over the world, competition has led to development of variations of the mobile phone.

Cellular phones will be used by businesses but a new service, the Personal Communications Service (PCS) will be more widely used because it can reduce costs. Japan has the Personal Handiphone System (PHS) which uses small, low powered base stations sited close together in large cities. The airtime charges are just one-fifth of the cellular systems and local calls cost less than calls from pay-telephones. Still cheaper would be the pager.

There are two determinants that will shape the future of telephony: technology and competition. While technology will bring out

A SCENARIO FOR THE FUTURE

Private telephone exchanges will be connected to cables providing television signals which go into people's homes. The cables consist of optical fibres which allow transmission of large amounts of data. Alternately, the private telephone exchange in a city will transmit signals by wireless which are received by antennas in homes. Cabling thus becomes redundant. The signals are directed to phones, television or computers in the home.

The private exchange, in turn, will be connected to the DoT exchange so that each subscriber is connected to the national network. The scenario makes telephone companies providers of entertainment but frees DoT from providing local services, which will be done by the private exchange.

Whether the scenario is a possibility or not remains to be seen, but there is no doubt that the world is moving closer to this reality. Better communications lead to more business opportunities. To restrict the growth of telecom would thus be self-defeating.

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LEARN IT FROM THE LEADERS

newer and more efficient products, competition will determine how cheaply it can be offered. There is thus need for an open policy in telecommunications. The PHS has its limitations, but it has enormous advantages and is expected to become extremely popular in Asia.

There may be new gadgets too as the market expands. A Ford car, for instance, contains some 50 tiny computers. Linked to a mobile phone, they can be used to tune the car or do spot maintenance. Thus the car gets serviced by using a mobile telephone. Other devices are being developed to direct the driver to less congested routes or even to track stolen cars.

Whether wireless replaces wired telephones remains to be seen, but there can be no predictions. The future may see cable operators wiped out and telephone service providers also providing entertainment. Another scenario is that telephone companies use the infrastructure created by cables. A third possible scenario could be replacing of wired telephony by wireless. It is difficult to predict, but changes are taking all over

the world that point to these possibilities.

Effect on costs

However, it is certain that there will be a pressure on costs. If telephones remain expensive, people will switch to computer networks and make telephone calls from there. Ultimately, technology will permit cheaper options and telephone companies will have to pay heed.

Countries are opening up and the European Union countries are committed to open telecom markets by 1998. Other countries are also doing similar things. The day is not far when an international call will not cost more than a local call. Some countries may indeed have such a system before the end of this century.

This opens a whole set of new possibilities. Bangalore's software industry could get a boost, for example, if transmission is made easier and cheaper. Geographical limits to businesses would vanish and anyone will be able to buy services from countries which offer them cheap. Some of the paging ser-

vices in Hong Kong, for instance, are manned in China, where labour is cheap. Poor countries like India, which have a large educated force, will be able to sell diverse services abroad. Designing a product, writing and editing, software and advertising are some areas which will immediately become exportable.

India, thus, has a huge incentive to liberalise the telecom sector and make services as cheap as possible. So far the country has suffered under State-owned telecom, there is no reason why it should continue to do so. Perhaps our country can learn from trends in Malaysia and South Korea, where telecom networks have been upgraded.

What effect will this have, apart from increase in exports? A hidden advantage will be that companies and individuals will be free to operate from anywhere they wish. There will be easing of pressure on city centres and congested areas. Business travel will decline.

The possibilities in different areas are tremendous. Health care will benefit in many ways. Fighting crime will also be easier. Global

positioning devices can be used to track down vehicles. The old and the infirm will find cheap communication very helpful.

Like the Internet, the telecom revolution makes distance irrelevant for people who have an idea or service to sell. There may be some increase in related crime, as Internet provides pornography and ideas for sedition. Copyright enforcers will have a headache trying to control theft of ideas, music or software. Controlling the flow of information through an optical fibre is going to be impossible for police.

These are the questions which society must face. Regulating communications or erosion of sovereign governments will be tasks that each nation will face. But, trying to curtail the revolution is going to be no solution. India discovered that trying to stop the advent of cable television with outdated telecom laws was a mug's game. Similarly, controlling the spread of telecom will not be an answer to a revolution that cannot be stopped. Like the Internet, cheap communications may usher in the ultimate democracy and the emergence of the world citizen.



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ESSAY

On Telling the Truth

"Everything can be sacrificed for truth, but truth cannot be sacrificed for anything".

—Swami Vivekananda

INNOCENCE and truth are the natural nuances of childhood but as life takes on the apparel of adolescence, youth, manhood and even old age, speaking or telling the truth becomes a severe test of one's character. Having learnt the tricks of trade and forgotten the distinct and decisive decency of childhood, we always find ourselves caught and cornered between right and wrong, virtue and vice, truth and untruth. Though bitter in taste, truth stands the test of time and takes on all trials and tribulations. When tricks fail to take off, it is the truth that shows the right path to the sinking ship of life. It needs no reiteration to emphasise that falsehood needs a number of crutches to stand, whereas truth is always steadfast like the rock.

Civilisations have prospered and survived on their intrinsic strength of truth, but staggered and sunk only when they tried to sacrifice truth at the altar of falsehood and the fleeting phantoms of pelf and power. To the conscientious one, truth is supreme and scintillating and requires no cosmetic cover to become palatable and pleasant.

By telling the truth we may lose a few flatterers. However, in the long run, we may win more friends. For Keats 'Truth is beauty' in all its colours and contours. From sages and saints to rulers and men of practical wisdom truth was the essence and elegance of life. Persons like Gandhi, though always in a minority, never give up the path of truth, however tortuous and trying it may be. For him, truth was

both a precept and a practice, a tenet and the tenacity of his personality. In all his encounters with the evil forces of fear, exploitation, suppression and slavery, he stuck to his guns and never allowed anyone to dilute the vigour and vitality of 'telling the truth'. Though at times his way of 'telling the truth' at critical and crucial moments of history, was like showing a red rag to the bull, he never hesitated to call a spade a spade. For him, truth never needed any prior preparation. His experiments with truth are a reflection of faith and firmness on his sterling character. He always insisted on telling the truth, even on sensitive State subjects, little caring for how his conviction in speaking the truth caused many a ripple on the political front.

Men of exceptional eminence had to face the gallows or even worse punishments in the past for their insistence to tell the truth to the whole world, that had been groping in the dark and slinging to untruth and half-truths spread by the vested interests. If today we remember and revere them as symbols of human dignity and conscience keepers of mankind, we do so not for any sentimental or superficial reason, but for their singular contribution to the domain of speaking (telling) the truth, when such a course of action was fraught with perils and persecution. Truth is a godly gift, which mortals may be afraid to tell or speak, for fear of offending their fellow men. But 'telling the truth' is such a phenomenon that blesses both the speaker as well as the listener.

In everyday life, personal success or failure depends so much on factors other than truth and frankness that the simple and straightforward persons have come to be devalued and denigrated. On telling the truth to his lawyer, an accused can hope to see some light at the end of the tunnel. But, if the same accused speaks the truth in the Court of law, he would surely land himself in thick soup.

If a politician tries to be fair and truthful by telling the truth of his failings to the voters, he invites their wrath and ridicule. But, if the same political wheel-dealer hoodwinks his voters by concocting a few stories and using highly conspicuous gimmicks and gesticulations he gains their trust and thus soars high in popularity and personal ranking. So 'telling the truth' in such tricky situations and a host of similar others, may not bring immediate rewards and may prove counter-productive in the short run. Mortals as we are, there is always a lurking fear in us to tell or hear the truth that concerns or clashes with our interests. Unmindful of the consequences, one should never show any regret or remorse on telling the truth. The quest for truth by religion and science and its delineation and description in all art forms, has been the source and sustenance of human life. Truth, and its forceful and frank espousal is the only way to keep the wheels of life, moving in all ages. Again to quote George Santayana: 'Truth is a jewel which should not be painted over; but it may be set to advantage and shown in a good light.'

SPECIAL FEATURE

Is Peace Possible in Middle East and Ireland?

Peace can be said to be a desirable human objective. But there are enough disruptive forces all over the world that undermine efforts to bring about peace in troubled areas. The attack of a terrorist is unpredictable; it arouses feelings of revenge, which, if they are strong, will break the slender threads on which peace efforts hang.

Never was it more evident than now. February saw bombs exploding in Israel and England, threatening to derail the peace process in the two conflict-prone areas. Suddenly, peace in the Middle East stood shaken as a crackdown began against the terrorists. In England, there were fears that there would be return to the days of violence and killings once again

This feature examines the threat to the peace process in these two traditional conflict areas. Will they ever see peace and normalcy, given such violent setbacks?

ISRAEL and Ireland bring forth images of some of the worst terrorist violence the world has ever seen. Both have seen terrible bombings and civilian strife, killing and maiming thousands of people. After years of terrorist violence and disruption of normal life, a hope of peace was at last seen in both countries. Both seemed moving closer to peace but ironically, both were threatened almost together, in February this year.

In Ireland, a cease fire was agreed on August 31, 1994 by the Irish Republican Army's (IRA) political front, Sinn Fein. A reprieve from almost 25 years of bloodshed seemed in sight and it was hoped that a political solution would cement the peace process. In the Middle East, the Israel-Palestinian peace accord of September 1993 brought forth the same hopes in a region that has seen the severe bombings and

killings.

Suddenly, the peace process in both countries came under a threat as bombs exploded, bringing back memories of their gory past. For different reasons, it seemed that the past was catching up on two troubled regions of the world.

Why Ireland Exploded

PEACE had come to Ireland after years of terrorist violence by the IRA. When a cease-fire was announced, it was hoped that a political settlement would be reached through a process of dialogue. However, as the talks kept getting delayed and Britain insisted on IRA disarming, the patience of the IRA was giving way. There was a deadlock as the IRA insisted on talks without pre-conditions.

Sinn Fein had been saying for some time that the peace process was under threat. Supporters had grown increasingly angry at the lack of political progress to the decades old dispute. After 17 months, Ulster was not closer to a settlement. On February 9, 1996, a powerful bomb ripped through London's Docklands, giving the signal that IRA's patience had run out and it was ending the cease-fire.

The conflict in Ireland has been one of the longest in Western Europe. When the province of Northern Ireland was made in 1920, it resulted in a majority for the Protestant unionists. Irish nationalists, who constitute 40% of Northern Ireland's population, are mainly Catholic and found themselves in a minority. This led to almost 50 years of discrimination under the unionists.

But for their part, the unionists do not wish to join a united Ireland, in which they would be a minority. The conflicting

attitudes led to civil unrest. British presence is not tolerated and is seen as colonial. While one side views Ulster unionists as British stooges, the unionists see the Catholics as subversive. The mutual distrust has hardened over the years and has dogged peace efforts.

The truce did not lead to a political solution as the British demanded that IRA terrorists should be disarmed before Sinn Fein could join the all-party negotiations. When no political solution was found, the IRA blamed British Prime Minister John Major of bad faith and with the bombing, declared its intentions of returning to violence.

The mounting pressure resulted in talks between John Major and the Irish Prime Minister John Bruton on February 28, 1996. The two leaders agreed that the political process would begin and legislation would be effected to have elections in May 1996. Since Sinn Fein's main demand was holding of talks without any pre-conditions, it seems that the peace process has not been derailed. The IRA bomb may thus have succeeded in fixing a firm date for talks and elections but it has also turned people against the violence. Any further violence will only erode the credibility of Sinn Fein.

Threat to Middle East Peace

THOUGH the two countries are far apart, Ireland and Israel shared similar threats to peace, for different reasons. Bombs exploded in Israel, threatening to undo the peace process so painstakingly achieved. First, in the last week of February, two explosions claimed 26 lives. A week later, on March 3, 1996, another bomb exploded on a bus in Jerusalem, killing

another 20 people. A day later, another bomb exploded in a shopping mall in Tel Aviv, killing another 14. The four suicide bombers in 10 days cast a pall of fear and anger in Israel.

The bombs were the handiwork of Hamas, the Palestinian Islamist group. It had vowed to avenge the killing of their master bomb-maker, but the violence unleashed by it was also aimed to destroy the Israel-Palestinian peace accord. It was the worst spell of violence seen since the peace accord in 1993 and it threatened to destroy the political lives of Shimon Peres of Israel and Yasser Arafat of PLO.

The bombs revealed the deadly capability of the terrorist organisation, Hamas. But they also revealed that the organisation was desperately trying to remain relevant in the face of Middle East peace. The goal of Hamas has been the destruction of Israel and the establishment of the Islamic State of Palestine. But Arafat has settled for limited self-rule in the West Bank and the Gaza strip and co-existence of a Palestinian State along with Israel.

Suddenly, groups like Hamas find themselves becoming irrelevant. The people are tired of violence and want peace; the State of Israel is a reality and cannot be wished away. If the peace makers succeed, groups like Hamas would have no role to play and would have to fade away. The bombings in Israel were a desperate attempt to remain in business and to sabotage the peace process, especially since the Israeli elections were approaching in May. Popular support for Hamas has been falling since the Palestinian elections held in January in which Arafat won by a landslide.

The violence eroded support for Shimon Peres. If his party loses elections it could mean an end to the peace process. The opposition party, Likud, is cashing on the sentiment that peace is costing Israel heavily. People in the country feel that Israel is giving up the land but is not allowed to live in peace.

As expected, the war of attrition

started with Israel cracking down on the families and supporters of terrorists. Arafat too has been forced to take hard decisions including declaring a ban on Hamas and other terrorist organisations. The election of Peres and continuation of the peace process depends on the ability of both states to control the violence. But if they crack down too heavily, it would antagonise the Palestinians while if they don't, the popular anger in Israel will escalate.

Peace Summit

In a dramatic show of solidarity, world leaders met for a summit on March 13, 1996 in Egypt. Though critics dismissed it as a public relations exercise, the summit brought together 29 countries and institutions in a bold effort to save the West Asian peace process.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin, co-sponsor of the summit, called for coordinated efforts to fight terrorism and for an end to giving shelter to terrorists. President Clinton said that the world had opened its heart to Israel and praised Arafat for his response in cracking down on terrorists. Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak warned outraged Israelis about falling into the trap of fanaticism and extremism.

The range of leaders, from countries in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Western hemisphere, reflected the acceptance Israel won in the last three years by working out peace accords with the Palestinians. It became evident that only a determined minority remained on both sides which would remain opposed to peace. The return to normalcy would now depend on how the violent minority is tackled.

Politically, the survival of Shimon Peres is at stake. President Clinton, too, is facing elections at home. This perhaps is a blessing in disguise since the US President will not want that his image as peacemaker should be sullied by events in West Asia or Northern Ireland. The US commitment of the West is, therefore, certain and can be counted upon.

Lessons for peace makers

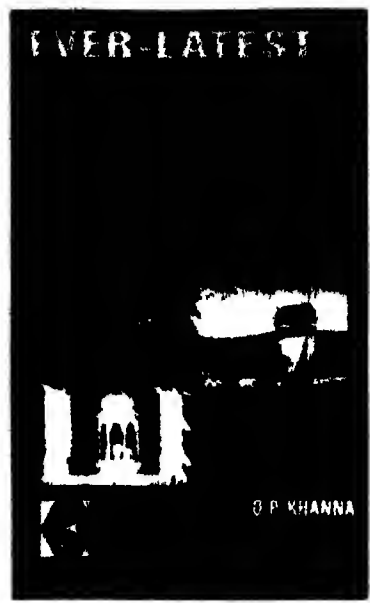
It was perhaps a coincidence that both Ireland and Israel came into the news at approximately the same time. Though there are differences between the two areas, there are lessons for peacemakers. A great responsibility rests on their shoulders, especially because of the fact that terrorism cannot be controlled. There will always be fanatics who have an interest in keeping conflicts alive since their survival depends on it.

In Ireland the cease-fire, cobbled together in 1994, did not result in political settlement. The London bombing helped achieving talks and in setting a firm date for all-party talks. Now the IRA has no excuse for further violence. If it does so, it will only alienate itself. It is clear that peacemakers must move fast and initiate the political process. Otherwise, it gives an excuse to terrorists that their patience is running out.

One important development has been world support for peace. Many countries came together for a summit to express solidarity with Israel; in Ireland, Sinn Fein's Gerry Adams was isolated. The Irish and British governments banned all high level contacts with him. The US distanced itself from him while the blast alienated supporters of Sinn Fein.

Developments in the two countries also showed that peace efforts could not be derailed by violence. While Israel is still on shaky grounds and further violence will undermine the position of Peres and Arafat, peace was on firmer footing in Ireland. In the Middle East, peace hangs on a slender thread, but the number of people who want peace is definitely increasing.

Ultimately, it will be a tug of war between the forces of peace and disruption. Though those who disrupt are in a minority, they have great power to make their presence felt. In the end the forces of peace are bound to conquer. How long can a peace-loving majority continue to be held hostage by a gun-toting minority which can never be pleased anyway?



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SPECIAL FEATURE

Do Economic Indicators Reflect True National Picture?

Pre-election estimates of economic indicators have showed some remarkable achievements. Poverty is stated to be reducing, inflation has been curbed to acceptable levels, the country has adequate foreign exchange reserves. Yet, amidst the euphoria, there are doubts whether these figures reflect the true picture. Not only were the figures faulted on their reliability but the methodology of arriving at the estimates was also called into question.

Some figures, like the poverty estimates, may have been hastily calculated, while others, like the inflation rate, have been artificially controlled. Moreover, if everything was well with the economy, why was the stock market and the rupee taking a beating?

This feature describes the basis of arriving at the economic estimates while questioning whether the figures put out by the government reflect the true picture of the national economy.

BY official estimates, the Indian economy is doing well. Figures released by the Planning Commission and the recently released Economic Survey try to convince that the economic reforms programme started by the government has been a success. Annual employment has increased, poverty is down to 19 per cent, and inflation is under control and has touched a low of 5 per cent.

The figures point to all-round good economic health. Yet, doubts persist about their authenticity. The government has not been able to reduce its non-plan expenditure and both domestic and foreign debt has ballooned. The rupee has taken a tumble. So is the picture as rosy as it is made out to be?

The figures may have something to do with the elections. The government is

keen to prove that its policies have been successful and that the country has prospered under the Congress rule. That could explain the hasty release of some estimates. If so, what is the sanctity of the figures, put out by a plethora of government agencies?

Manipulating Indices

SOME indices are changed almost in routine. Estimates are made on 'thin' samples which are duly reported in the press. Subsequently, they may be changed without as much a mention. The statistical agencies of the country rely on a number of estimates: advance estimates, quick estimates, revised advance estimates and final estimates. While the figures may be revised under any of these headings, there is no way that accountability can be attached to them. This speaks poorly for the statistical organisations of the country.

The Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) revised the growth rate of gross domestic product for 1994-95 from 5.3 to 6.2 per cent. This increase, according to the CSO, was due to an increase in the primary sector, from 2.4 per cent originally to 4.8 per cent, which represents an error margin of Rs 2,183 crore. By any standards, this is a very high error margin. Decisions based on such high error margins would surely be wrong.

Apart from the high error margin, some figures are manipulated. For example, inflation figures are managed week after week. The government compares provisional figures for the present with the final figures of the previous period. If the present figures are under-estimated, they would show a reduced inflation rate.

They may be subsequently revised upwards and when compared with the provisional figures again, will give a wrong picture.

Likewise, the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is released after a five month period and is erratic. But it is also subsequently revised and so loses utility as a measure of economic growth. For example, the revised estimate for 1993-94 of 5.6 per cent was almost twice the provisional estimate of 3 per cent. The estimate for 1992-93 was revised from 1.3 to 2.3 per cent. Which figures are to be trusted?

The GDP growth rate again raises questions. The government has estimated it to be 6.2 per cent but the Centre for Monitoring of Indian Economy (CMIE) has put the figure at 4.7 per cent. The lower figure represents slowdown in the economy as a result of tight money conditions in the third quarter of the year. Thus, government estimates of industrial growth, which are based on the first two quarters, may seem inflated.

Calculating Poverty

THE biggest surprise comes from government data saying that the number of people below the poverty line has reduced to 19% in 1993-94. The preliminary estimates are based on half the results of a national survey by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), of the consumption pattern of 5 lakh households. This is the first time that figures based on half the data have been released, reportedly under pressure from high authorities.

In fact, the whole process of calculating poverty has been called into question.

The Planning Commission works out a poverty line which is founded on the daily expenditure on food with a minimum of 2,400 calories per person in rural areas and 2,100 calories for urban areas. In terms of money, this means an expenditure of Rs 264 per month (at 1993-94 prices) for urban areas and Rs 229 in villages. People who spend below this level are considered to be below the poverty line. However, this is too low a figure even for poverty estimates. Going below these limits would be destitution, not poverty.

The economic reforms programme ushered in liberalisation and resulted in the availability of a large number of goods for the rich and the middle class. Until recently, the poor had been left out of the structural adjustment programme. So how could poverty reduce so dramatically—from 25.5 per cent in 1987-88 to 19 per cent in 1993-94?

The latest estimates suggest that the reforms programme has paid off. In most other nations, the percentage of people below the poverty line drops very slowly after reaching the 30% mark. After the structural reforms are introduced, the poverty levels usually climb. Yet, India seems to have gone against that trend.

Both the methodology and the figures are being questioned. In its draft mid-term appraisal of the eighth plan, the planning commission has said that poverty actually increased after the reforms. Since then, the figures suggest that the reverse is true. How it has happened remains a mystery. Is this statistical jugglery? In all probability, the planning commission may have compromised its earlier estimates to present a good picture of poverty alleviation.

Several things point that it may be so. First, the figures are based on half the data and may be 'half-baked'. But at the same time, the real wages of agricultural labourers declined in 1993-94. There was also a steep rise in issue prices of rice and wheat in the Public Distribution System (PDS). This would suggest that poverty should increase during the period rather than decline.

The percentages imply that 140 million rural dwellers and 27 million urban dwellers were below the poverty line. However, estimates of Oxfam India reveal that between 1971 and 1991, poverty levels did fall but the trend was reversed in this decade. According to ICRIER estimates, poverty has remained stagnant at 39 per cent for 1993-94. It suggests that the poverty ratio worsened since reforms. These studies point to the fact that planning commission methodology may be faulty.

Inflation

THE government is also keen to keep the inflation figures low. To do this, it has curtailed money supply. But though inflation rate has been brought down to 5% in February 1996, there are questions whether it can be sustained and kept low. Tight money conditions over a long term would stifle new projects and expansion of existing units, leading to stifling of economic growth. This would lead to fewer jobs being created and a general depression.

If economic growth is to be increased, money supply will have to be eased. Once this happens, inflation is bound to raise its head again to double digits. It is expected that this will be done after the elections. So what the government has done in effect is to opt for post election inflation and keep it down before the elections. Whether this is wise is debatable, but from the government's point of view, elections are all that matters. Clearly, the low rate of inflation is a short-term strategy to bail out the ruling party during the last leg of its term in office.

Moreover, inflation has been kept down by freezing the prices of administered items like petrol. While these too cannot be kept low for a long time, they indirectly increase government spending by increasing the amount spent on subsidies. Continued suppression of the inflation rate as an election strategy will not fool the voter repeatedly and it may only work against the government. There is thus need to be truthful.

Need for Accurate Data

CLEARLY, the economic indicators do not reflect the picture of the national economy accurately. Releasing estimates and frequently revising them only serves the purpose of having a rosy picture for a short while. If the trend continues, people will slowly lose faith in the data put out by the government. The private sector and the foreign investor needs accurate information to be able to plan their activities. Consistently wrong data will only slow them down.

It is the government credibility that is at stake. While earlier there was no other source of economic data, now private organisations have been set up to monitor the economy. The CMIE is one such organisation. If government data is consistently undervalued, decision makers will turn to private organisations for their needs. The government and its huge organisations like the planning commission, CSO and others, will lose their credibility.

Wrong economic data hides urgent tasks before the nation. Two important things that the government must do are to reduce debt and control its own expenditure. Such tasks are likely to be pushed into the background if the government lulls itself into believing that all is well on the economic front. Unfortunately, this is what is happening at present.

The government has no concrete steps to control its expenditure, nor is it worried about the debt, which has reached huge proportions. Many economists believe that India is in real danger of falling into a debt trap if it is unable to service the debt. Yet, this is continuously played down.

The pretension that poverty is decreasing in the country will result in decrease in spending for social programmes. A more realistic estimate of poverty would give direction to government thinking. Rather than pat itself on the back because of faulty data, it should modify the reforms programme to include the poorest of the population.

ARTICLE

Controlling Inflation

During the nineties, a strange phenomenon of persistent price rise has hit the Indian economy. Empirical study says that the inflation rate in India had been in the double digits only in abnormal years of drought, excessive rains and floods, war, external disturbances or crisis. But during the nineties, despite good and normal monsoon or without any external disturbance or crisis, the inflation rate has generally been in double digit. Government has taken several measures to tame the inflation but considering the overall objective of rapid economic growth rate, it cannot go beyond a particular limit, as excess of such measures would adversely affect the investment, employment and the output, thereby moderating the economic growth rate.

Galloping Rate

EXCEPT for the year 1992-93, the nineties have witnessed a double digit inflation rate, starting with 10.3 per cent in 1990-91, peaking at 13.6 per cent in 1991-92 and then reducing to 11.5 per cent during the year 1994-95. Despite controlling the inflation rate considerably during the beginning of 1996, the annual average may turn out to be nearer to double digit in 1995-96. Interestingly, except for the year 1990-91, which was marked by international disturbances like turmoil in the erstwhile U.S.S.R. and Gulf war, all other years were normal years, with no disturbance and good monsoons resulting in reasonably good agricultural crops.

There are several reasons which result in higher price rise in India. Higher doses of money supply, higher levels of foreign exchange reserves, high fiscal deficits, bad agricultural crops and increase in the administered prices have been some

of the important factors. Expansion of money supply (M_1) in any developing economy is essential to facilitate higher levels of investment by making the funds easily available for investment. This also implies more credit expansion in the economy. As per one point of view, expansion of M_1 at a rate of around 15.5 per cent is considered ideal for the Indian economy. But, during the financial year 1995-96, the growth of M_1 was subdued at 4.5 per cent upto mid-October. The growth of M_2 , however, increased rapidly after mid-October. This was apparently aimed at reducing the inflationary pressures and once the rate of price rise started receding the government decided to increase it.

Higher level of foreign exchange reserves is also known to have inflationary tendencies. During the past three years, when the inflation rate was generally around double digits, the foreign exchange reserves were around \$ 20 billion. It is only recently that the forex reserves came down to around \$ 17 billion, almost at the time when rate of inflation also started coming down. Although it does not necessarily establish a positive correlation between the quantum of forex reserves and higher inflation rate, yet it is one of the important factors.

The monsoons have been normal or above normal during the past seven years and the agricultural output has also been satisfactory. Despite this positive aspect, the prices have continued to grow at a rapid pace. As per one estimate, during the years 1993-94 and 1994-95, the inflation rate taken alone for primary (Agricultural and allied) products has risen by 40 per cent, which was at least three times higher than the price rise in other consumption goods. Another important factor responsible for price rise is higher levels

of fiscal deficit. The tendency towards higher fiscal deficit crept into Indian system towards mid-eighties, when in the year 1986-87, the fiscal deficit reached its peak at 9 per cent of the GDP. Even after that, upto 1990-91, it remained between 7 to 9 per cent, a pretty high level by all standards. Unfortunately, the fiscal deficit during these years was used to finance unproductive administrative expenses of the government, which fuelled the existing levels of price rise. After 1991-92, the fiscal deficit was brought down to a level of around six per cent of the GDP, with the exception of 1993-94 when it again climbed to 7.4 per cent, only to be brought down to 6 per cent during 1994-95.

The Dilemma

THE Government appears to be facing a dilemma with respect to government spending. To achieve the rate of economic growth of over 5 per cent, the government has to spend huge sums of money on development programmes, the credit must be easily available at a lesser cost and the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) have to grow and spend. In addition the government also has to pay interest on both internal and external borrowings and repay its debt. To ensure all this, expansion of money supply and expansion of credit is a must. But, owing to the inflationary pressures, the government has imposed the so-called "liquidity crunch" which has resulted in curtailment of availability of funds for the developmental purpose.

The Trade and Industry is concerned about the liquidity crunch aimed at restricting the fiscal deficit, thereby affecting the growth rate of the economy. It is felt that a reduction in government spending adversely impairs the economic

growth rate. Particularly, a drop in developmental and fruitful spending reduces the growth rate. On the other hand, a drop in non-developmental and administrative expenses has no adverse impact on the growth rate and it only reduces the fiscal deficit. Hence, there is a strong need to reduce the non-productive expenses of the government. However, while pursuing a so-called "tight money" policy, it must be ensured that the availability of credit is not curtailed and cost of credit is maintained at moderate levels, so that there is no dearth of funds for investment in developmental activities.

Heartening Trend

SINCE October 1995, the price rise has shown a downward trend. It would, however, be wrong to presume that the prices have started falling. The inflation rate, which was around eight per cent in October, started coming down and the downward trend continued during December and January 1996. It was during the week ending January 20, 1996 that the inflation rate came down to 5 per cent, dipping to more than six years low. During February and March it remained below 5 per cent. As per the latest indications the annual inflation rate may turn out to be around 7 per cent during the year 1995-96, which will be much less than the annual inflation rate achieved during the previous year (1994-95), when it was 11.5 per cent.

It would, however, be wrong to think that the inflation rate has been contained at last. With Lok Sabha elections approaching, the government took special precautions to ensure that the inflation was tamed, even at the cost of growth rate. Moreover, the huge pumping in of black money during the coming election would certainly increase the price level by the "demand pull" phenomenon. Moreover, the increase in the administered prices of coal, gas, petrol and diesel is also overdue and keeping in view the falling value of Rupee vis-a-vis US dollar, the new government would have no option but to jack-up the administered prices of all these

commodities considerably. The new government may also be more generous and give higher increases in support prices of agricultural crops. And to give practical shape to its poll promises, which usually involve huge chunks of non-productive expenditure, the government may end up increasing the fiscal deficit considerably. All these facts may result in putting inflationary pressures on the economy after June 1996.

Hence, it would be wrong to say that the inflation rate would remain low for long. And if the price rise levels remain subdued for five to six months after 6 years of higher rates, by no stretch of imagination it can be termed as effective "control" over it. If the annual inflation rate remains as low as around 7 per cent, at least for a period of two years, only then the inflation may be termed as 'controlled'.

Long-run Precautions

WITH the policy of liberalisation and reforms appearing irreversible, it appears that the country is in for a long spell of moderate rates of inflation. Such rate of inflation is considered conducive for rapid economic development and is inevitable in a developing economy like ours. What is, therefore, needed is a long-run policy on ensuring rapid economic growth without having higher rates of inflation. To ensure this, the new government, first of all, will have to keep the administered and non-productive expenditure in proper check. Another area of relevance is the effective enforcement of the tax collection administration and ensuring the achievement of tax-revenue collection targets. Additional resource mobilisation needs detailed analysis and the areas not adversely affecting the common man will have to be identified and tapped.

Another aspect which needs to be looked into seriously in a market driven economy is availability of credit to the investors. The Trade and Industry, Agriculture and priority sectors cannot be choked of funds and credit, just to keep

the price levels down. On the other hand, if the prices are also to be kept under proper control, an efficient management of credit expansion and expansion of money supply is to be ensured. A balanced monetary policy, aimed at keeping the prices low on the one hand and ensuring easy and cheap availability of credit on the other, will have to be evolved and executed.

Since early eighties, the growth rate of the economy has been relatively high, but has never been stable. Sustainable growth rate has, by far, remained a pipe dream. The reason is that the government has been following short-term and ad-hoc policy measures to combat situations of crisis on the economic front. A long term and stable policy on all these front ; would certainly result in a smooth and higher rate of growth. With the annual population growth rate slightly below two per cent, the Indian economy needs a growth rate of over 5 per cent per annum in its GDP.

Effective measures to ensure proper management of Central PSUs is another important issue which needs to be addressed carefully. PSUs have so far been getting a major chunk of central plan, without producing the corresponding results. With the return on capital in the PSUs remaining around 2 per cent upto the beginning of Eighth Five Year Plan, it is essential that government expenditure on PSUs is reduced considerably and directed to some more productive and fruitful use. The nation cannot indefinitely continue to pay for the inefficiency of PSU management. The time, therefore, is ripe to take initiatives to ensure privatisation of the PSUs at a much rapid pace and with sincerity of purpose. Rather than being a drain on the exchequer, the PSUs must generate surpluses to fund the developmental programmes and projects in future. Efforts should also be made to ensure increase in productivity levels in all sectors of the economy to ensure an in-built mechanism to combat the inflationary pressures in the economy, on a long-run basis.

THIS MONTH YESTERDAY

May: Before and After Independence

Before Independence

Pre-independent India witnessed some epoch-making events relating with revolutionaries and moderates during the months of May. Notably the great Indian Mutiny began on **May 10, 1857**, the trial of Assembly Case began in Delhi Jail on **May 7, 1929**. However, in this section we shall focus on two incidences, viz., Forward Bloc and Cabinet Mission.

Forward Bloc

After resigning from the Presidentship in April, 1939, Subhash Chandra Bose announced the formation of Forward Bloc on **May 3, 1939**. While, he himself became the President of the Bloc, Sardar Sardul Singh Cavesheer of Punjab became the Vice President. In May itself propaganda offensive for it was launched in full swing. Subhash Chandra Bose claimed that the Bloc posed the first serious challenge to Gandhiji's leadership after the death of C.R. Dass.

Cabinet Mission at Shimla

Following the setting up of a Cabinet Mission in February, 1946, the three-member Cabinet Mission got underway without waste of any time. In this regard a crucial round was held in Shimla in May. The sequence began with the arrival of Cabinet Mission and a few leaders in Shimla on **May 1, 1946**. And on the next day Mahatma Gandhi, Jawahar Lal Nehru, Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan and Acharya Kripalani also reached Shimla. It was at Shimla that Jawahar Lal Nehru met Jinnah after a period of seven years. The triangular talks got underway on **May 5, 1946**. On **May 8, 1946** the Cabinet Mission made fresh proposals giving more powers to the Union

Cabinet to raise money. On **May 9, 1946** all members of Viceroy's Executive tendered their resignations. The tripartite Shimla Conference ended on **May 12, 1946** and on **May 24, 1946**, Congress Working Committee Resolution asserted that 'Independence is India's right and that the Cabinet Mission proposals are vague'.

After Independence

In this section we shall focus on 'redrawing of Indian Political Maps', 'Presidential Elections', 'Mt Everest' and 'India going Nuclear'.

Redrawing of Political Maps

After independence, Indian political map was time and again redrawn during May. Notably, on **May 1, 1949** Baroda was eventually merged with India. On **May 2, 1950** Chandernagore, a French settlement 21 miles from Calcutta, was merged with Indian Union.

The formation of the State of Gujarat from North-West Bombay also took place on **May 1, 1960**. It was also on **May 16, 1975** that the Sikkim became the 22nd State of India. Later, on **May 30, 1987** Goa became the 25th State of India and Daman and Diu got the status of a separate Union territory.

Presidential Elections

It was on **May 2, 1952** that the first Presidential election, after the introduction of adult franchise, took place in India. And on **May 6, 1952** Dr Rajendra Prasad was declared elected as President. On **May 10, 1957**, Dr Rajendra Prasad was re-elected President of India for the second term. After the exit of Dr Rajendra Prasad, on **May 13, 1962**, Dr S. Radhakrishnan and Dr Zakir Hussain

assumed Office of the President and Vice President respectively. Following Dr S. Radhakrishnan's refusal to seek the second term, on **May 9, 1967**, Dr Zakir Hussain was elected as the 3rd President of India. However, the sequence of Indian Presidential elections in May was broken with the death of Dr Zakir Hussain, on **May 3, 1969**, when Mr V.V. Giri was sworn in as the Acting President of India.

Mt Everest

The climatic conditions of May have rightfully been exploited by the Indians for conquering Mount Everest. It was on **May 29, 1953** that the Sherpa Tenzing and Edmund Hillary first reached Mt Everest, the highest peak in the world. Incidentally Tenzing Norgay, 72, died on **May 9, 1986**. On **May 9, 1984** Phu Dorjee, became the first Indian to be on the Mt Everest without oxygen. The same year on **May 23** Bachendri Pal, 28, a Lecturer in Economics from Uttarkashi, became the first Indian and 4th woman in the world to set foot on the Mt Everest. Notably, on **May 16, 1975** Mrs Junko Tabei (of Japan) became the first woman in the world to scale the Mount Everest.

India going Nuclear

The months of May also witnessed some successful demonstration of India's commitment to be self-reliant in harnessing nuclear potential. For instance, on **May 22, 1972** a Zero Energy Fast Reactor, the first of its type in India, became operational at BARC, Trombay. Later, on **May 18, 1974** India carried out her first underground nuclear explosion at Pokharan in Rajasthan and became the 6th country in the world to do so.

DEBATE; DISCUSSION

Will Elections Bring Peace in J & K?

The Kashmir problem defies solution. The government is of the opinion that it can be solved if elections are held in the State and a popular government installed. A package offered by the Prime Minister was rejected in November 1995, even as the Election Commission decided that the situation was not suitable for holding elections. Elections are now slated for May this year, but there are questions whether the situation has changed or whether elections will bring peace to the strife-torn State. There are also doubts that free and fair elections can be held at all, given the violence and killings.

In this issue, we debate whether elections are an answer to the continued crisis in India's troubled State.

Mr A The situation in Kashmir refuses to improve. Increasingly, people are getting alienated. They have not seen peace, the economy is in shambles and there is also the disruption of normal life by terrorists on the one hand and security measures on the other. The problem is compounded by activities of Pakistan and there is evidence that it is supporting terrorism there. Continued strife in the area serves its purpose very well and it can talk of so-called 'atrocities' by Indian troops. In fact, it has been raising the Kashmir issue in every international forum but has been rebuffed. In such a situation, a continued President's rule and the presence of the army does not serve a very useful purpose. If elections are held and a popular government comes to power, much of the sting of Pakistan's propaganda will be taken out. Elections

would be the first step to restore normalcy and our Prime Minister recognises this. Time and again he has announced elections but unfortunately they could not be held. Elections would be a first step towards political settlement.

Mr B Have you thought why elections could not be held? It is simply because the situation has become very bad. Elections may look perfect on paper but the ground situation is such that people may not respond to elections at all. There is a fear of widespread violence. There are six Lok Sabha seats in the State, three of them in the Valley. Given the backdrop of violence and Pakistan's role, it is doubtful that free and fair elections can be held for any of the six seats. Candidates will be in grave danger and no amount of security would suffice for them. So intense is the growing alienation and fear of militants that few people are prepared to associate themselves in any way with the elections. You will remember the Chrar-e-Sharief incident, which showed that militants could do anything to stop free and fair elections in the State. Later in November 1995 the government was keen to have elections but the Election Commission said the same thing—the situation in the valley was not conducive for elections. So, even though I agree with you that elections are a first step towards a political settlement, there is simply no way that they can be held peacefully. There is no point risking lives at this

stage. Even an incident like Chrar-e-Sharief cannot be ruled out. I think it would be better to avoid elections at present juncture.

Mr C You have a point, but how long can the government wait? It has already waited long enough. With each passing day, the situation only worsens and this gives Pakistan something to crow about. Moreover, it is reported that the counter-insurgency movement is also getting out of hand. Some 555 civilians, 520 militants and 56 security men have been killed in the Valley during January and February, according to P. S. Gill, IGP of Kashmir. People believe that these deaths were caused by "agents of India", such is the mood there. A prolonged spell will only harden attitudes. There is need to do something concrete and to show the world that there is a lot of misinformation being spread. Elections will prove India's intentions and slowly the people can be brought around. We have seen a similar thing in Punjab. On the one hand, militancy was crushed and on the other a popular government was installed. People slowly realised that the militant movement was misguided. India may have its faults, but it is a secular country and a mature democracy. This has slowly brought people around. There is no reason why this should not happen in Kashmir too. So I would suggest holding elections and stamping out terrorism. This would be the only way to restore peace in the troubled State.

Mr D You may be right, but how can you push for elections in a scenario of such severe violence? What you will have is a farce. The All Party Hurriyat Conference is against elections. Senior leaders have described elections as a "sham". According to Shabir Shah, "The elections will be nothing more than drama". The JKLF has also declared its opposition and it has declared, "We won't let the elections happen." Given these conditions, few people will be allowed to vote. Thus, elections simply cannot be held in these conditions. It would have been better if some goodwill measures had been initiated to restore the confidence of the people. This has not been done. An election is no substitute for policy. Unfortunately, the government does not seem to have a Kashmir policy. All it does after a while is to announce elections without taking other factors into account. It is no wonder that it has to retract time and again. I am, therefore, against elections without adequate groundwork. The government should not rush into elections without doing other things.

Mr E But what is the alternative? The Prime Minister believes that a low poll is better than no poll. Restoring democracy will vindicate India's stand in the eyes of the world. In spite of five years of Central rule, militancy has not been controlled. There is no reason to believe that the government will be able to do so now. I do not think that there is any point waiting any further. Nor should India feel scared about what Pakistan might do. It should tighten security and go ahead with the elections as a first step towards settlement. I do not agree with you that the elections will be a farce. The turnout in Kashmir will be low, but combined with the figures of Jammu and Ladakh, it will amount to a respectable total. If there is adequate security cover, I am sure people will vote. But if elections are not

held and the present situation continues, nothing will be achieved at all. I would say that the choice is between two bad options and holding elections is the least worse option. We already have the lesson of Punjab before us and should try to replicate it.

Mr B Let us not delude ourselves that elections will bring peace or that the experience of Punjab can be replicated. There are major differences between the two States. First, the terrorism in Kashmir has more support from the local population than in Punjab. Second, the population is largely Muslim whereas in Punjab it was equally divided between Hindus and Sikhs. In an opinion poll, it was found that 80% of the people felt that election will not help in solving the problem. A majority of them felt that independence was the only solution. So the situation in Punjab and Kashmir is quite different. Kashmir will require much more work but it seems that the government hardly has a policy for the State. That is one reason why it is suffering.

Mr D Indeed, the first task should be to build trust in the Valley. We have to work hard to befriend Kashmiris. Then holding elections will be easy. But trust cannot be built up merely by holding elections. A lot of groundwork has to be done. At present the Kashmiri is alienated from the security forces, the civil administration is in shambles. Basic services are not available. Several schools have been burnt. The Kashmiri is held to ransom from all sides. There is no accountability in government dealings. Nor is any information available. Today there is need to rebuild confidence. If this process begins, there is no reason why the people of Kashmir will not start trusting India. Unfortunately, that is not happening. Whenever there is any talk of doing something in Kashmir, all our politicians can think of

is to announce elections. Given the mood in the Valley and the violence expected, merely holding elections without building trust will do no good.

Mr A That is a very good suggestion. You are also right that the Kashmiri does have goodwill for India. Only, the confidence is now lost. But the people of Kashmir are not pro-Pakistan. In the opinion poll mentioned above, few people were in favour of merger with Pakistan. Worse, since the militancy started, there has been a rise in Islamic fundamentalism. A majority of almost two-thirds (66%) was found to be totally against such fundamentalism. India is a secular country with a great tradition of tolerance. So the people of Kashmir are not dead against our country. Many of them have moved to other parts of India and settled there. This speaks volumes about where their heart really lies. It is only the neglect that has caused them to be angry. The Indian government should start a process of rebuilding trust and once this is done, elections can be held. This would be a basic requirement.

Mr C I think all of us agree that elections in Kashmir should be held to restore peace. Successful elections will revitalise the political process and could well be the harbinger of Assembly elections as well. The first step towards normalcy are the elections. Of course Pakistan is unlikely to let these happen peacefully. The government needs to have a Kashmir policy through which Pakistan's designs can be thwarted and the process of rebuilding confidence can start. Security should be tightened because Pakistan is sure to respond with hostage taking, seizing of shrines and increased subversive actions in Kashmir. This is because Pakistan knows that elections will usher in peace and stability. Whether our government will be able to live up to the task, remains to be seen.

PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT

Set Your Goal; Set out Achieving It

Here is the story of two hunters who ran into each other in a thick forest while on a hunting expedition.

The two greeted each other and enquired how the day had been for each. One told that he had seen a big cluster of birds perched atop of a tree.

The other, naturally excited, said, "Wonderful. You must have bagged a dozen."

"No", replied the former depressingly. "I missed not only the birds but also the tree!"

This little story, even if fictional, reveals one thing: the person without an aim misses his target. And a miss is as good as a mile!

A large number of people, energetic and ambitious, are sorry-heads of the human race because they miss not only the "birds" but also the "tree"

Extend this further. One hunter aims a rifle shot at a particular part of a dummy, say the right eye, while another shoots at random at the dummy. Sooner or later, the former will succeed while the latter will go on shooting without hitting the dummy much less the right eye.

There is a difference between a rifle shot and a gun shot!

Success in life is not so much a matter of talent and opportunity as of definite goal and a determined march towards it.

"The man who succeeds above his fellows is the one who, early in life, clearly discerns his object and towards that object habitually directs his powers", says Bulwer.

When you have a direction and a purpose for your life, you turn from a drifting oar-less boat into a powerful steamship that steers its way to its destination through the surging ocean of life.

Deciding upon a goal of life gives one control over thoughts and feelings—the

two dynamos of stamina and energy to see you through to the fulfilment of your objective.

These are the two magnets that attract the desired things to you and give you an aura of power, purpose and contentment.

The most contented people in the world are those who know exactly what they really want and who are working towards it

Find, therefore, your definite goal to give depth and dimensions to your life. The first step to self-realisation is finding your goal of life

Before you decide upon your goal of life, you must realise a fundamental but vital truth. It is that all experiences in your life issue forth from your level of understanding about *yourself*.

You are where you are because of the image you hold about yourself. Otherwise you would not be where you are. You have accepted your present lot in life. That is why you are what you are, where you are.

Victim

YOU might protest: "No, this is not true. I do not want to be as I am now! I am the victim of circumstances. Others have done me in"

This, in many cases, is untrue. You are what you are because you have yielded to the pressures of the circumstances. The fact still remains that you have accepted your lot as such. If you are a clerk, a salesman, an executive, a technician or poor, this is largely because of the image you have about yourself.

It is quite easy to hold others responsible for your lot in life but this is not going to alter things because you are the person who decides what you are going

to be.

The one thing that is going to change your life is the setting of a goal before you—a new mental picture which you hold in your mind, an image which defines just what it is you want out of life.

Though different people will have different objectives as their goal of life, there are certain common denominators too. They are: We all want at least a reasonable amount of material security. We all want enough growth and change to prevent stagnation and boredom. We all have what has been called the universal hunger for esteem.

In the words of Havelock Ellis the one thing we really need to make us happy is "something to be enthusiastic about".

This means that your goal must, not only embody these objectives, but a good deal more, too. There is a lot of difference between one's own selfish ends and broad-based objectives that benefit everybody around

Also, there is a great difference between creative enterprise and routine activity. The former is satisfying and the latter is drudgery.

So, your goal must be creative, worthwhile, beneficial and broad-based. There is a great difference between aiming at doing things that benefit a hundred and one people and concentrating all your efforts on personal benefit. So, choose a broad-based goal. In this way only you can give the best of yourself not only to yourself but to others as well.

Money

HOWEVER, there are people who make narrow objective their aim of life. If you ask them: "What is the aim of your life? They would straightway answer:

"Money!" or "Enjoyment!"

How can money be the aim of life? Money is simply a means for living. How, then living for the sake of living can be the aim of life. Animals also live. They exist. We are more than animals. We are human beings endowed with the ability to create, to be useful. Money can be a means to an end. In itself, it cannot be a goal of life.

The real challenge is: What shall we do with money? Shall we use it intelligently for the good of all or be selfishly obsessed with its false glitter?

There is no doubt that enjoying life and its blessings seems to be an aim worthy of human beings. But we cannot enjoy on our own. Others also must share our joys if we really wish to enjoy. Our aim must embody the wider fields of creativity and service of community.

Aim high to get real satisfaction from life. Thinking small, setting petty aims for yourself only leads to small things.

Small things have no power to inflame the imagination and stir the heart. To start the real fireworks you must aim high. Even if you don't quite make it, you will have anyway gone farther than you would have travelled otherwise. Aim as high as you can.

People generally do not aim high enough, why? Because most are afraid to think in large terms. They are afraid lest they should burst out like the over-inflated balloon. That people will mock at them.

Aiming high does not mean looking for things beyond one's reach. It means living to one's fullest potentials. One should be reasonable but one must also remember that most people use only a fraction of their true potential.

Actually, it is not a matter of over-reaching oneself. The fact is that those who do not aim high, consciously or unconsciously, want to play safe.

They lazily surrender themselves to the inertia of living a vegetative life. They feel satisfied in living at low key so that they are not over-stretched physically, mentally or emotionally. They think small and act small.

If one is really satisfied with such a

modest aim of life, it may be okay but if one feels discontented with his lot and envious of those who have gone further on the road to success, then he needs to re-cast his goals of life.

Mind's Power

ASK yourself: "What do I want from life?" "Am I really utilising my time or just whiling it away in the run of the mill activities? Ask these questions of yourself again and again: think over them as often as you can so that they percolate down into the deeper recesses of your mind.

Soon the answer to your honest searchings of your inner drives, urges and wishes will begin to crop up in your consciousness which will reveal what you *really* want from life.

The dictates of inner mind will serve as guidelines to fix your major goal. Since these will reflect the genius of your personality, your natural propensities and potentials, you will have a feeling, which will soon turn into conviction, that you have after all found out what you wanted to accomplish in life.

Decide once for all the purpose for which you were endowed with talents and abilities in such a manner that they make your personality unique.

Do not permit yourself to deviate from your real goal of life by running after petty goals like quick money-making, selfish living, wasting time in eating, drinking and merry-making.

Do not be daunted by its magnitude, its apparent unattainability. Since your goal is the reflection of your genius, your inner urges, nothing can prevent you from attaining it.

The whole force of your personality and the power of the "Universal Intelligence" will be at your disposal to fortify your determination. You drive yourself to your destination.

Will-Power

THE next step to breaking the stifling bends of inertia is the frequent repetition of the affirmation, "I can and I

will."

With this affirmation spend most of your time in doing only those things that have a direct bearing on your goal. This is the difference between a mediocre person and an outstandingly successful one.

The former wastes most of his time in doing nothing purposeful and useful. The latter utilises his every spare minute for furthering his objective.

The former lives an indisciplined life whiling away his time in cheap entertainment, the latter disciplines himself in such a manner that he completes his work of the day with a smile.

Map out, therefore, a plan of action for the next month—for the next three months, for the next six months. Do it right now. Write it out on a piece of paper. This will give you clear and concise programme for your overall progress towards your goal.

Visualise in your mind a clear and vivid picture of your goal. The technique of visualisation is simple. Fix some place where you will not be disturbed for some time. Sit down comfortably and relax yourself as completely as you can. Gently close your eyes and imagine that there is a big screen before you.

In your mind's eye, project a picture of your goal. See your goal on the mental screen as if it had already been achieved. Try to feel the success-feeling as you visualise it. At the same time affirm to yourself: "As I see my goal, completed and realised in my inner life, so will it soon be materialised in my outer life."

Visualise

IT is visualisation that makes your mind goal-oriented, your personality set for action. Visualisation invokes the higher powers to help you realise your goal; to make the seemingly impossible possible and well within your reach.

Genius itself is fine observation strengthened by fixity of purpose.

Set yourself a goal and set out to achieve it. Success, like politics, is the game of the achievable.

CRICKET

The World Cup 1996

For five weeks (February 13-March 17, 1996) excitement gripped the participating nations in the World Cup 1996. Some excellent cricket was played, marred a little by a botched opening ceremony and crowd misbehaviour during the India-Sri Lanka match at Calcutta. But the tournament left enough memories to last out till the next World Cup, to be played four years later. This feature describes the records made and some memorable moments of the Cup.

The sixth World Cup started with questions whether it would be held at all. West Indies and Australia refused to play in Colombo because of security fears and conceded their matches. On February 13, India and Pakistan fielded a joint team for the first time in their history and played in Colombo to compensate Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka emerged the winners of 1996 World Cup when they defeated Australia by 7 wickets in the final played at Lahore.

Memorable Moments

The England-New Zealand match on February 14 in Ahmedabad saw the debut of Nathan Astle who scored 101 and kept up the tradition of a century being scored on the opening day of the Cup. New Zealand brought the first upset of the tournament.

The South Africa-UAE match on February 16 had Gary Kirsten scoring a record 188 runs, crushing debutants UAE. Sachin Tendulkar scored his 127 runs in the match of India-Kenya on February 18th, to send the crowd at Cuttack wild.

In the South Africa-New Zealand match on February 20, Jonty Rhodes lived up to his reputation of flying on the field rather than running. His run out of Adam Parore left the batsman bewildered. On February 23, the Waugh brothers of Australia put on a record 207 runs for the third wicket against Kenya. The next day in the Pakistan-UAE match, Javed Miandad became the only man to have played all six World Cups.

The India-Australia match on Febru-

ary 27 had some great moments. Mark Waugh made 126 runs. His rival Tendulkar survived two dropped catches to make 90. Australia won the match.

On February 29, the Cup's biggest upset was witnessed when Kenya beat West Indies by 73 runs. Richardson's side was bowled out for 93, with no batsman reaching 20. On the same day, South Africa beat Pakistan by 5 wickets. Hansie Cronje showed excellent captaincy. He accounted for the first four Pakistani batsmen, and then scored 45 not out, to dwarf Amir Sohail's century.

In the India-Sri Lanka match on March 2, Tendulkar scored 127 runs and India's total of 271 seemed comfortable, but Sri Lanka was determined. Manoj Prabhakar got the beating of his life. The first three Indian overs conceded 43 runs to Jayasurya and Kaluwitharana and Sri Lanka won the match with 8 balls to spare. The Sri Lankan skill in batting was exhibited once again on March 6 when Aravinda de Silva hit 145 off 115 balls to total up a record 398 runs against Kenya.

Rivals India and Pakistan met for the quarter finals at Bangalore. Wasim Akram did not play. Ajay Jadeja was in full form against the dreaded Waqar Younis. In two overs Pakistan's feared pacemen gave away 40 runs and their reputation was ruined. Tensions ran high: there were reports that a Pakistani shot himself and another died of a heart attack seeing their side lose. An enquiry was ordered by the Pakistani government to go into the causes of their defeat. In the quarter final match between England and Sri Lanka, Jayasurya had everybody in trance as he scored 82 off 44 balls. England lost the match with almost 10 overs to spare.

In the West Indies-South Africa quarter finals on March 11, Brian Lara scored 111 runs but fell one short of equalling the

feat of Clive Lloyd's fastest century off 82 balls. Lara smashed 5 boundaries in a single over off the over by Pat Symcox.

The semi-final between India and Sri Lanka on March 13 saw India tottering at 120 for 8 and the match was as good as over, when the Calcutta crowd started throwing things on the field. The match was abandoned and awarded to Sri Lanka. At the semi-final at Chandigarh, Australia staged a comeback from 15 for 4 to total 207. Warne pulled off the impossible and Australia graduated to the finals, beating West Indies.

The final match was held between Sri Lanka and Australia at Lahore on March 17. Sri Lanka became the first host country and the first one to win the World Cup batting second. Aravinda de Silva became the first batsman to score a century in a World Cup final since 1979. Australia dropped three crucial catches during the final.

Records in the World Cup

The sixth World Cup had a record 12 countries participating. Champions Sri Lanka were never all out in an innings even once while batting. The other team not to have lost all their wickets in any innings were Holland, which lost all its five league matches. India's Sachin Tendulkar was the most successful batsman notching up a total of 523 runs. Among the bowlers, the most successful was Anil Kumble who took 15 wickets conceding 281 runs; an average of 18.73.

Sri Lanka scored 398 for 5 against Kenya on March 6 at Kandy, which became the highest score in one day matches. The previous highest score was 360 for 4 by West Indies against Sri Lanka at Karachi in 1987.

The World Cup saw 15 centuries being scored. Mark Waugh became the maxi-

TOP TEN																
TOP TEN BATSMEN									TOP TEN BOWLERS							
Batsman	M	I	NO	Runs	Avg	HS	100s	50s	Bowlers	O	M	Runs	Wkts	Avg	4WI	Best
Sachin Tendulkar (Ind)	7	7	1	523	87.16	137	2	3	Anil Kumble (Ind)	69.4	2	280	15	18.66	—	3-28
Mark Waugh (Aus)	7	7	1	484	80.66	130	3	1	Waqar Younis (Pak)	54	4	253	13	19.46	1	4-26
Aravinda de Silva (SL)	6	6	1	448	89.60	145	2	2	Shane Warne (Aus)	68.3	3	263	12	21.91	1	4-34
Gary Kirsten (SA)	6	6	1	391	78.20	188	1	1	Damien Fleming (Aus)	45.2	3	221	12	18.41	1	5-36
Saeed Anwar (Pak)	6	6	2	329	82.25	83	—	3	Paul Strang (Zim)	42.1	4	192	12	16	2	5-24
Asanka Gurusinha (SL)	6	6	—	307	51.16	87	—	3	Roger Harper (WI)	58	6	219	12	18.29	1	4-47
Hansie Cronje (SA)	6	6	1	276	55.20	78	—	2	Curtly Ambrose (WI)	56.3	8	170	10	17.00	—	3-28
Andrew Hudson (SA)	4	4	—	275	68.75	161	1	1	Mushtaq Ahmed (Pak)	57	3	238	10	23.80	—	3-16
Aamir Sohail (Pak)	6	6	—	272	45.33	111	1	2	Rajab Ali (Ken)	36.2	3	176	9	19.55	—	3-17
Brian Lara (WI)	6	6	1	269	53.80	111	1	1	Allan Donald (SA)	34	1	126	8	15.75	—	3-21

mun century maker in a single world cup. He scored 130 and 126 against Kenya and India respectively, and 110 against New Zealand in the quarter finals. He is followed by Sachin Tendulkar who scored 127 and 137 against Kenya and Australia respectively. Mark Waugh also became the highest aggregate run getter in a World Cup, scoring 472 from 5 innings. The previous best was Graham Gooch in the 1987 World Cup.

The highest individual innings was scored by Gary Kirsten of South Africa with 188 not out against UAE at Rawalpindi. The previous best was 181 by Vivian Richards against Sri Lanka at Karachi in 1987. However, he missed by one run the all time high individual score of 189 in one day internationals set by Vivian Richards against England in 1984.

The highest partnership record (207) is held by Mark Waugh and Steve Waugh who scored 130 and 82 runs respectively for the third wicket against Kenya. The previous best was 195 between Gordon Greenidge and Larry Gomes of West Indies against Zimbabwe in 1983. The highest partnership for the first wicket for 186

runs was scored by Andrew Hudson and Gary Kirsten of South Africa against Holland. They beat the previous record of 182 runs by Rick McCoskar and Alan Turner of Australia against Sri Lanka in 1975.

Arjun Ranatunga of Sri Lanka became the man to score the fastest half century. He scored 50 in 29 balls against Kenya at Kandy but missed scoring the fastest century when he was declared out at 82.

The World Cup also saw a team not conceding a single extra in an innings, for the first time in history. New Zealand achieved the feat against South Africa at Faisalabad on February 20.

There were 5 run outs by Australia against India which equalled the previous record of run outs in the 1975 World Cup between Australia and West Indies.

Marketing of the World Cup

The World Cup will also be remembered by the marketing hype created by companies sponsoring the events. ITC spent upwards of Rs 60 crore to be the sponsor of the Cup: it linked its Wills brand name to the event. Coca Cola paid \$3.7 million to be the offi-

cial soft drink. Other companies who hitched on to the Cup were Wimpy's fast food, Fuji film, Visa credit cards and a host of others.

Some companies resorted to ambush marketing to cash in on the cricket craze without being the official suppliers. Leading the band was Pepsi, which came up with a campaign, "Nothing Official About It" and signed the popular players to endorse it.

The players were happy to do so as they gained from corporate sponsorships. Sachin Tendulkar will earn \$7.5 million over years, making him the richest cricketer. Reebok has contracts with cricketers like Azharuddin for Rs 30 lakh, Sidhu and Kumble for Rs 10 lakh and Srinath, Prasad and Mongia for Rs 5 lakh each.

The World Cup also saw high level of computer and telecommunication support. The telecast rights had been won by WorldTel which had paid \$10.5 million for it. The matches could be seen across continents, thanks to satellite television. That perhaps has made the game so popular in varied and diverse countries.

CAREER

Chartered Accountants

With the growing importance of trade and industry in a liberalised system like ours, the importance of Chartered Accountants has grown enormously. A qualified Chartered Accountant (CA) has the option of joining the Government Service, an attractive job in the Public Sector or a lucrative assignment in the private sector. The CAs can also join any financial institution or even have their own consultancy. Whether it is a salaried job or private practice/consultancy, CAs receive very high remunerations for their services. A person choosing this career, has, however, to be careful to ensure that he/she is comfortable with the figure work, as aptitude for figures and accounts is a pre-requisite for the job of a CA. Hence, only such candidates as may be at ease with figures should venture into this specialised career.

Eligibility

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), with its headquarters in New Delhi, acts as the nodal agency in regulating the profession of the CAs as well as conducting examinations, granting certificates and exercising disciplinary control over the members. The affairs of ICAI are managed by a Council consisting of 30 members, out of which 24 are elected and six are nominated by the Government of India. The Institute has five Regional offices and over 80 Branch offices all over the country with seven Chapters abroad at places including Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Dubai, Jeddah, Muscat and Zambia. The Institute was set up in 1949, by an Act of the Parliament and is performing the functions assigned to it since then.

Every graduate above 18 years of age is eligible to register as an articled clerk for the Chartered Accountancy. In addition the candidate should also have passed

the Entrance Examination of the Institute. Several categories of candidates are, however, exempted from passing the Entrance Examination. A candidate who has passed the graduation examination with commercial law, accountancy, auditing or mercantile law as one of the subjects and secured at least 50 per cent marks in the graduation examination is exempted from passing the Entrance Examination. Graduates in other subjects securing 55 per cent marks in aggregate are also exempted. For calculating 50 or 55 per cent marks the papers which are only qualifying in nature are not considered. Even those candidates who are to take their academic examination subsequently, are eligible to take the Entrance Examination, provided that they have to submit satisfactory proof of their having passed the graduation examination within 9 months of their provisional registration with the ICAI.

Entrance and Training

For all candidates, other than those exempted, it is essential to take the Entrance Examination and qualify it before getting registered with the Institute. The candidates planning to take the Entrance Examination, must possess the eligibility qualifications mentioned above. It may, however, be noted that no candidate is allowed to appear for more than thrice in the Entrance Examination. In other words, if a candidate fails thrice at the Entrance Examination, he/she is rendered ineligible to take this examination thereafter. The candidates have to take and qualify the following four papers to be successful at the Entrance Examination:

- | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------|
| Paper-I | Elements of Accounting |
| Paper-II | English |
| Paper-III | Elementary Business Mathematics |

Paper-IV General Commercial Knowledge and Economics.

To be successful at this examination the candidates are required to pass all the four papers individually by obtaining at least 40 per cent marks and jointly securing at least 50 per cent marks in all the four papers taken together.

The Institute also registers those candidates who, after their 10 + 2 examination in Arts, Commerce or Science, join the 12-month Foundational Course. 12 months after registering for the Foundational Course, the students take the Entrance/Foundational Course examination in four subjects. During the Foundational Course, the students are imparted coaching and training enabling them to pass the examination. The advertisement for the Entrance/Foundational Examination appears in almost all major national newspapers from time to time and usually, this examination is conducted twice a year.

The Training of CAs is a good blend of practical training in the form of on the job training, on the one hand, and theoretical input in the form of regular supply of study material by the Institute, on the other. During the practical training, every registered student has to undergo postal tuition imparted by the Board of Studies of the Institute. For this every candidate has to pay the Registration and Tuition fee, in addition to the nominal Association fee.

For practical training, the candidate may either work as an articled clerk for a period of three years or work as audit clerk for four years. This training is done as per the deed of articles of apprenticeship which is executed as a training agreement. The entire period of practical training can either be served under a practising member of the Institute, or can be served partly under a practising member and partly in

an approved industry. Any trainee who gets attached to a Chartered Accountant for a period of 3 years is called articled clerk and other who wish to take up a job in a firm or approved industry for a period of 4 years, are known as audit clerks. All the articled clerks get a fixed rate of stipend from the CA with whom they are attached, as per the rates fixed by the Institute from time to time. Audit clerks, on the other hand, earn their wages and minimum wages of the audit clerks are also notified by the Institute from time to time. Hence, during this period of 3 to 4 years of practical and theoretical training, the Candidates/trainees also get a chance to earn their livelihood while acquiring knowledge and preparing themselves for the Intermediate and Final Examination.

The service conditions of the trainees undergoing practical training are governed by various instructions issued by the ICAI. Audit and articled clerks are entitled to leave at the rate of one seventh of the period of actual service. While preparing for the Intermediate and Final examinations of the Institute, a trainee may be granted two months' leave, subject to the leave due. Such trainees are required to work upto a maximum of 35 hours per week. With prior permission from the ICAI the trainees may also pursue other courses of study, provided that the attendance for such courses is outside the normal working hours and the classes are not held between 11.00 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.

Examinations

After joining the practical training as articled clerk or audit clerk, the trainees become eligible for taking the Intermediate and Final examinations of the Institute after the prescribed period. A maximum of ten-year period is allowed to all the candidates after commencement of their training to qualify the Intermediate examination. For appearing in the Intermediate examination, the trainees must have completed at least 9 months' practical training as an articled or audit clerk and should have completed the postal tuition scheme initiated by the Board of

Studies of the Institute. The Intermediate Examination consists of seven papers which includes Accounting, Income Tax Law, Auditing, Cost Accounting, Mercantile and Company Law, Business Mathematics and Statistics, Organisation and Management and Economics. The candidates have the option of answering all the papers, either in Hindi or English, but paper-wise option is not allowed to select the medium to answer the questions.

A candidate who wishes to pass the Intermediate Examination, will have to first qualify at least 9 test papers during the period of 9-month training. These tests are conducted by the Institute on Sundays and the Candidates are required to obtain 40 to 45 per cent marks in these tests. On successful completion of tuition, including the tests, a certificate is granted to the students which makes him/her eligible to appear in the Intermediate Examination.

After successfully qualifying the Intermediate Examination, the trainees become eligible for the Final Examination. Final examination contains eight papers including Advanced Accounting, Management Accounting, Auditing, Company Law, Direct Tax Laws and a set of 3 papers out of three combinations mainly containing Management papers. The trainee candidates can take Final examination within the last six months of their practical training, provided that there is a time interval of one Final Examination between passing of Intermediate examination and the first appearance in the Final examination. However, for a trainee candidate who appears in the Final examination of the Institute after completion of training period as clerk, no such time interval is a prerequisite.

The above examinations are usually conducted twice every year in the months of May and November. In each examination, a candidate is required to obtain a minimum of 40 per cent marks in every paper and a minimum of 50 per cent in the aggregate at one sitting at the entire examination. Candidate securing more than 70 per cent marks is considered to have passed the said examination with distinction. Any one who passes all the ex-

aminations is registered as an Associate Member of ICAI.

Prospects

Career prospects for the CAs are very bright. Chartered Accountancy has emerged as a specialised professional field to which no one can get without becoming an associate member of the Institute. All the companies registered under the Companies Act, Public Sector Undertakings, Institutions and specified Business Houses are required to get their accounts audited by the practising Chartered Accountants, who receive handsome remuneration for this. In addition, all such organisations require the full time services of CAs as Finance Managers, Financial Controllers, Financial Advisors or Directors (Finance), etc for keeping a close watch over the finances in the day to day management. Opinion of a Chartered Accountant, whether working on full time basis or acting as a part time consultant, is valued immensely in every business organisation. CA is considered to be a professional of exceptional and high order and cannot be substituted by any other professional.

With the growing number of export houses, advent of numerous multinational corporations, expansion of trade and industry, rapid growth of capital and money markets and expansion of business, the need for CAs is increasing. Competent professionals, with pleasant personality, practical approach and natural instinct to deal with figures, are expected to do extremely well in this profession. Finance is one of the most important functional areas in any business organisation and a competent CA heading this division is expected to be the king-pin of the entire organisation. The openings in the field of private practice and consultancy are even more lucrative and satisfying, as one does not have to work under any boss and the amount of business entirely depends upon the quantum of hard work and effort put in by CAs. The career, thus, can truly be termed as challenging and rewarding in its own right.

MANAGEMENT

Business G.K.

We continue our feature on business GK, which is essential in management entrance tests and interviews. The feature will also help you to develop an awareness of business environment.

CAR WARS Tie ups for cars

Foreign company	Indian partner	Model
Suzuki	Maruti	Esteem, Zen, Omni, 800
General Motors	Hindustan Motors	Opel Astra
Daimler-Benz	Telco	Mercedes E-220
Mitsubishi	Hindustan Motors	Lancer
Peugot	Premier Automobiles	Peugot 309
Fiat	Premier Automobiles	Uno
Ford	Mahindra & Mahindra	Escort, Fiesta
Daewoo	DCM	Cielo
Honda	Sriram	Civic
Toyota	Hindujas	Charade
Volkswagen	Eicher	New
Rover	Sipani	Montego
BMW	Hero Motors	Not finalised
Hyundai	-	Accent

QUESTIONS

Q. With what area is the name of Philip Kotler associated with?

A. Marketing.

Q. Who is the owner of Star TV?

A. Rupert Murdoch.

Q. Which are the companies owned by Manu Chhabria which have been ordered to be wound up?

A. Orson Electronics and Nihon Electronics. The sick companies have been ordered to be wound up by Appellate Authority for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction.

Q. Which company will be featured on Sachin Tendulkar's bat?

A. A one year contract has been signed by Sachin Tendulkar to endorse the MRF logo on his bat for a Rs 1.5 crore fee.

Q. Which company was allegedly given favours by Orissa Chief Minister Biju Patnaik for which he has been chargesheeted?

A. Ballarpur Industries, which is a Thapar group company.

Q. What is the lowest rate of inflation that was seen in India recently?

A. The inflation rate reached 4.42% for the week ended February 10, 1996, which is a 10 year low.

Q. Who is the chairman of BPL?

A. T.P.J. Nambiar.

Q. Who is the managing director of Godrej-GE?

A. Vijay Crishna.

Q. Who is the chairman of Export-Import Bank of India?

A. Tarjani Vakil, who is one of the 50 most powerful businesswomen in the world.

Q. Who is the 'Rogue Trader' in the book of the same name?

A. Nick Leeson, who busted Barings Bank last year. The book is written by Nick Leeson with Edward Whitley.

Q. What is the new name of the advertising division of Lintas?

A. Ammirati Puris Lintas.

Q. Which is the world's largest advertising agency?

A. Japan's Dentsu Inc, the \$14 billion agency. Its chief executive is Fumio Oshima and its Indian partner is Rediffusion.

Q. With what area is the name of Michael Porter associated with?

A. Michael Porter is known as the father of competitive advantage.

Q. Who is the person who will take over as chairman of Hindustan Lever group from August?

A. K.B. Dadiseth. He will succeed S.M. Datta.

Q. Which companies are the biggest spenders on advertising?

A. Hindustan Lever is India's biggest spender on advertising with Rs 109.81 crore, a 22% jump over last year. The second biggest advertiser is ITC, with Rs 107.67 crore. The third biggest advertiser is Videocon with Rs 70.06 crore. As a percentage of sales, the advertising expenditure is between 2-5 per cent.

Q. In terms of economic freedom, where does India rank?

A. According to the Heritage Foundation, India still ranks low on the scale of economic freedom. Its rank is 117 among 140 countries, from 86th among 106 countries last year.

Q. Which Indian company is in the race to take over the ailing Dutch aircraft manufacturer, Fokker?

A. Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL). The other companies trying to take over Fokker include: Samsung Aerospace of South Korea and British Aerospace.

Q. Who is the chief executive of the consultancy firm McKinsey and Co?

A. Rajat Gupta. He is the first non-Westerner to head McKinsey, a \$1.5 billion organisation with 4,000 employees.

Q. With what area is the name of Stephen Covey associated with?

A. Stephen Covey is a corporate trainer and the founder of Covey Leadership Centre. He is also the author of the bestselling *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*.

Q. In which countries does FIEO have offices?

A. The Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) opened its first overseas office in Holland. Another office would be opened in Casablanca in Morocco, where it will hold its first exclusive exhibition of Indian products in April. It also plans to open an office in Dubai.

Q. Which Indian companies are the biggest exporters?

A. According to the Centre for Monitoring of Indian Economy (CMIE), the top exporter was Ganapati Exports with exports of Rs 971.40 crore in 1994-95. ITC was second with Rs 786.77 crore in exports. Essar Shipping (Rs 625.59 crore), TELCO (Rs 582.98 crore) and Raj Diamonds (Rs 571.94 crore) took the next three places.

Q. Which foreign banks have the highest deposits in India?

A. According to the Finance Ministry, Citibank had the largest deposits of Rs 6091 crore in India as on March 31, 1995, followed by Grindlays ANZ with Rs 4575 crore and Hong Kong Bank with Rs 3453 crore.

Q. Which are the biggest advertising agencies in India?

A. The biggest advertising agency in India is Hindustan Thompson Associates (HTA) with billings of Rs 410.69 crore, followed by Lintas with Rs 339.44 crore and Mudra with Rs 240.19 crore.

Q. In terms of size, what is the rank of India's economy in world economy?

A. India has the sixth largest economy in the world, which in a few years will become the world's fourth, according to a reference annual, 'Information Please Almanac' published by a US company. Many analysts feel that Europe dominated the 19th century, US the 20th century and the 21st century would be dominated by Asian countries.

Q. Which places is the East Coast Road supposed to link?

A. Madras to Cuddalore.

Q. With which company is Indian Oil tying up with to set up a petrochemical unit in Punjab?

A. Saudi Arabian petrochemical giant Aramco. It will set up a refinery, a petrochemical unit and a power plant in Punjab.

Q. What is a limited company?

A. A registered company in which the liability of the members is limited to the value of their investment, or share capital.

Q. What is a scheduled bank?

A. A scheduled bank is one that is included in the second schedule of the RBI.

Q. Where is Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd situated?

A. Rasayani.

Q. When was Central Excise Day observed?

A. February 24.

Q. What are FCNR deposits?

A. Foreign Currency Non-Resident deposits.

Q. With which company is Hero Motors tying up with to make motorcycles?

A. BMW of Germany. The company will make the 650 cc motorcycle Funduro with a price tag of Rs 4.5 lakhs.

Q. Which company has launched the shampoo 'Organics'?

A. Hindustan Lever.

Q. What is Elle 18?

A. It is the name of the new cosmetics range launched by Lakme. Elle 18 is targetted at teenagers.

Q. Which, according to *Fortune*, are the most admired companies?

A. The five most admired companies according to *Fortune* magazine, are: Coca Cola, Procter & Gamble, Rubbermaid, Johnson & Johnson and Intel.

Q. Who has written the book. *Competing For The Future*?

A. C.K. Prahlad, co-authored with Gary Hamel.

Q. Which company has plans to make an environment-friendly detergent?

A. The National Aluminium Company Ltd (NALCO), which has bought the knowhow for Zeolite 'A', an ingredient to make environment-friendly detergents. The technology was developed by the Central Salt and Marine Chemicals Research Institute (CSMCRI), Bhavnagar and was sold for Rs 1.35 crore to NALCO by the National Research Development Corporation (NRDC).

Q. To which country does Nokia Telecommunications belong?

A. Finland. It is the second largest seller of phone handsets in the country, after Motorola.

Q. Which company has launched disposable contact lenses?

A. Bausch & Lomb. The monthly disposable contact lenses are called Occasions.

Q. What is TQM?

A. Total Quality Management.

Q. Which product is Liberty shoes diversifying into?

A. Cigarette lighters. It plans to launch two models, Stylite for the urban market and Sholay for the rural market.

Q. What is a bazooka?

A. Bazooka is actually a portable weapon for firing armour piercing rockets. It is also the name of Videocon's television which uses woofer technology.

Q. How many workers does the textile industry employ in India?

A. 10 lakh workers. It is the single largest organised industry in the country.

Q. According to the WTO, what is India's share in World Merchandise exports?

A. India's share in world exports for 1994 was between 0.5 to 1.0%.

Q. Which company launched the first cellular phone service?

A. Modi Telstra in Calcutta.

Q. What is Windows '95?

A. It is a computer operating system launched by Microsoft.

Q. What is the savings rate in India?

A. According to the Central Statistics Organisation (CSO) there has been a 3% rise in India's savings rate for 1994-95, which touched 24.4% of the GDP at constant prices.

Q. What is Econometrics?

A. Econometrics is the application of mathematical methods and models for the study of economic problems.

Q. Where is the Asian Development Bank located?

A. Manila in Philippines.

Q. Which State has been declared wholly backward?

A. Under the new Industrial Policy, Arunachal Pradesh has been declared wholly backward.

Q. In the category of trucks and buses, which company holds the maximum market share?

A. Telco. In trucks, it holds 75% share while Ashok Leyland holds 24%. In LCVs, it holds 54% market share and Bajaj Tempo 23%. In buses, it holds 60% market share and Ashok Leyland 40%. The figures are for 1994-95.

ADMISSION ALERT

THE COMPETITION MASTER'S GUIDE TO MANAGEMENT RELATED COURSES

This feature alerts our readers about forthcoming examinations. Institutes should send us information well in advance to be included here. Readers are advised to assess their own suitability before applying—this feature is not a recommendation of any course or institute

Advertising

Post Graduate Diploma in Advertising Management (PGDAM)—(1 year) Eligibility Graduate in any discipline Admission is based on group discussion and interview Apply to Director Admissions National Institute of Advertising, No 1, Mohammadpur Bhikaji Cama Place New Delhi—110 066 with a DD of Rs 250 Last date May 15, 1996

Computers

Master of Computer Applications (MCA)—(3 year full time) Written test June 29 1996 Last date May 30, 1996 Apply to Manager Printing and Publications Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra - 132 119 with a DD of Rs 65 Other courses in computers such as M.Tech, M.Sc and Diploma have also been advertised

Cost Accountancy

Foundation Course Eligibility Graduate or 10+2 after qualifying the Foundation Exam, held in June and December Apply to The Institute of Cost and Works Accountants of India 12 Sudder Street Calcutta 700 016 with a DD of Rs 50 Delhi Office NIRC of ICWAI, 3 Institutional Area Lodi Road New Delhi 110 003

Defence

NDA and Naval Academy Examination To be held on September 15 1996 Last date April 30 1996 Eligibility Class 12 and date of birth between 2 July 1978 and 1 January 1981 Apply on the prescribed format to Secretary Union Public Service Commission Dholpur House New Delhi 110 011

Management

1 MBA and diplomas in other disciplines (IGNOU) Eligibility Bachelor's degree with 3 years experience, master's degree or professional qualifications Written test dates April 20 and July 20, 1996 Apply to INDOMAT Cell, CMC Limited, A-5 Ring Road NDSE Part I New Delhi - 110 049 with a DD of Rs 100

2 Post Graduate Diploma in Business Management (PGDBM), Master in International Business (MIB)—(2 years full time) Eligibility Graduate with minimum 50% marks Written test May 26, 1996/June 2, 1996 Last date May 5, 1996/May 25, 1996 for PGDBM/MIB courses respectively Apply to Director Symbiosis Centre for Management and HRD, Senapati Bapat Road Pune - 411 004 with a DD of Rs 350

3 MBA—(2 years, full time) Eligibility Graduate with minimum 50% marks Written test June 23, 1996 Last date April 20, 1996 Apply to Dean MS Patel Institute, Faculty of Management Studies, The MS University of Baroda, Opposite University Main Office Fatehgunj, Vadodara 390 002 with a DD of Rs 200

4 Master of Business Administration (MBA), International Business (MIB), Finance and Control (MFC) and Marketing Technology (MMT)—(2 years, full time) Eligibility Graduate with 50% marks Written test June 30, 1996 for MBA and June 23, 1996 for others Last date June 4, 1996 Apply to Manager Printing and Publications, Kurukshetra University Kurukshetra, with a DD of Rs 65

5 PG Diploma in Business Administration (Cooperation)—Eligibility

Graduate/Post graduate with at least 50% marks Written test May 25/26, 1996 Last date May 4, 1996 Apply to Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management, University Road, Pune - 411 007 with a DD of Rs 165

6 PGDBM—(2-year full time or 3-year part time) Written test May 18, 1996 Last date April 30, 1996 Apply to Jagan Institute of Management Studies, C-1/9 West Enclave Pitampura Delhi - 110 034 with a DD of Rs 300

7 MBA—Eligibility Graduate in any discipline Written test July 7, 1996 Last date June 8 1996 Apply to Director MBA Programme, Department of Commerce, University of Gorakhpur, Gorakhpur 273 009 with a DD of Rs 400

8 Diploma in Planning and Management—(2 years, residential) Eligibility Graduate Last date May 11 1996 Apply to Indian Institute of Planning and Management, Room No B12 ISI 10 Institutional Area, Lodi Road, New Delhi 110 003 with MO of Rs 300

9 MBA, MIB, MFC and MMT (2 years) Eligibility Graduate with minimum 50% marks Written test June 19, 1996 Last date May 18, 1996 Apply to Registrar, GJ University, Hisar with a DD of Rs 60

10 Bachelor of Business Studies (3 years full time) Eligibility Senior Secondary Exam with minimum 70% marks and age 17 years as on October 1, 1996. Written test June 9 1996 Last date May 10, 1996 Apply to Admn Officer, College of Business Studies Vivek Vihar Delhi 110 095 with a DD of Rs 300

Distance Learning

1 Diplomas in Management, Marketing and Personnel—(18 months) Eligibility Graduate Written test May 26, 1996 Apply to International Institute of Management Sciences BF-37, Salt Lake City Sector-I Calcutta - 700 064 with a DD of Rs 200

2 Management of Business Finance (MBF)—Eligibility Graduate Apply to Indian Institute of Finance, Community Centre, Ashok Vihar, PO Box 8486 Delhi 110 052 with a DD of Rs 200

Hotel Management

1 Diploma in Hotel Management (Taj Group of Hotels)—(3 years) Eligibility Class 12 Apply to Indian Institute of Hotel Management, Rauza Bagh, Aurangabad 431 001 with a DD of Rs 250

2 Part/Full Time Courses in Hotel Management—Last date May 15, 1996 Apply to Shri Shakti College of Hotel Management, II Floor Venus Shopping Plaza, Begumpet, Hyderabad - 500 016 along with DD of Rs 125 for full time and Rs 75 for part time course

3 Diploma in Hotel Management—Eligibility Class 12 and age 17-22 years Apply to Merit Swiss Asian School of Hotel Management Post Box 3031 No 2 Monteth Road Egmore, Madras - 600 008 with a DD of Rs 300

4 Bachelor in Hotel Management—Eligibility Minimum 45% marks in class 12 Selection on the basis of interview to be held in May/June 1996 Apply to Saptagin College of Hotel Management, Kavar, Mangalore 575 015 with a DD of Rs 200.

Pilot

Commercial Pilot License, Instrument Rating and other courses—Eligibility Class 12 with Maths and Physics Apply to Orient Flight School, 40 GST Road, Madras - 600 016 with a DD of Rs 200

Tourism

Master of Tourism Management—(2-year full time) Eligibility Graduate with minimum 50% marks Written test June 2 1996 Last date May 1, 1996 Apply to Manager Printing and Publications, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra with a DD of Rs 65

PARAGRAPH-WRITING

Model Paragraphs

"We cannot always oblige, but we can always speak obligingly."

—Voltaire

It may not be possible for all to help others with money or material but to speak sweet and soothing to the needy, is within our reach and resources. 'Courtesy costs nothing but carries a message of care and concern for others' feelings.' In the same vein we can speak with utmost consideration and thus win the appreciation of those who are known to us as well as of those who may be complete strangers. It is not given to all to be liberal with one's pocket and be a donor all the time. But a word of compassion and a gesture of fellow-feeling can go a long way in alleviating the burden of tension and trauma that confront most of us at every moment of our passions and pursuits. Those who shirk to speak in civilised tones and shew venom all the time, stand condemned here and hereafter. Since we expect others to behave politely with us, it is incumbent on us as well to set the tone of good behaviour and warm welcome towards others. A smile can win many friends and a sneer can create unnecessary irritation and ill-will all round. A person who talks in measured but mellowed tones endears himself to all. He needs no recommendation to feel at ease in the company of others because he represents the sun-shine of character that has become so rare in the woe-ridden milieu of the present day world. In order to sweeten the bitter cup of life, we must, without exception and excuse, speak obligingly on all occasions.

"Between craft and credibility the voice of reason is stifled."

—Edmund Burke.

Craft represents the dubious designs of a fox, whereas credibility stands for the blind believing of all that is said or rumoured. Since the former signifies the doings of a cunning and the latter brings out the ever readiness on the part of some to take others' words as gospel truth, the voice and vitality of reason stands to suffer the most. With the help of their ways the crafty try to befool others and thus grind their own grains with means fair or foul or both. The credulous wallow about in half-truths or pure lies that are scattered before them in sugar-coated tales and anecdotes. However hard the rationalist may try to redeem both the cunning and the credulous from their self-deceptive mirage of life, the result is anything but rewarding. His efforts are frustrated by the deep-rooted hold of habit that refuses to respond to anything reasonable and enlightened. Just as a few species of the animal world thrive and throb in mud and mine, similarly, in the domain of human beings, the crafty and the blind believer seem to enjoy the malaise of their respective worlds. Between the two extremes, the rationalist with his reason and argument, feels suffocated and silenced. Since the path adopted by a reasonable person is beset with difficulties, doubts and distractions of all types, ordinary human beings opt for short-cuts and 'easy to achieve' goals of life. Men armed with reason have to tread the paths of life warily and it is quite an uphill task to change the well-entrenched modes of life that craft and credibility have brought about over a long period of

time.

"The light of knowledge can never dawn on the proud."

—Mahatama Gandhi.

Only the humble can take in the fragrance and profundity of knowledge, which in turn adds meaning to life and its manifold pursuits. The light of knowledge always illuminates the dark and ignorant corners of human personality. Conversely, for those soaked in the slush of pride and self-conceit, the rays of knowledge seldom touch them. Just as water tends to stay on the surface of a slave, similarly the light of wisdom refuses dawn on the proud. Knowledge comes to the willing and voluntary bent of mind. The proud, who gloats over his ignorance and makes a mockery of books and other sources of wisdom, is a loser of such exultation and exuberance as only the learned know and enjoy. Just as it is a waste of time and energy to cast pearls before swine, in the same way, it is like taking an unwilling horse to the well of knowledge and fail to make it agree to taste the fruits of knowledge. The proud wallows in his pride and does not see what great minds have to say or communicate. They are so blinded by the arrogance of their pride and 'frog-like mentality' that they treat it below their dignity to come out of the cob-web of their own 'make-believe' world of images and illusions. In a way they are the unfortunate creatures of this earth who prefer to creep in their pride rather than soar on the wings of knowledge. The proud lives and dies in utter ignorance whereas the knowledgeable feasts himself with the delicacies of words.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

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ELECTIONS

Election Commission announces schedule

THE Election Commission (EC) announced on March 19, 1996 a 3-day poll schedule for the Lok Sabha elections. The nation will vote on April 27, May 2 and May 27, 1996. Elections to the assemblies of West Bengal, Kerala, Haryana, Assam and Tamil Nadu and the Union Territory of Pondicherry would be held simultaneously. There will be no Assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh where the President's rule has been extended for 6 months. By-elections to 14 assembly constituencies in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Orissa and Karnataka will also be held. Over 590 million voters will be able to vote in nearly 8.25 lakh polling stations for 543 constituencies. The EC has declared about 25 per cent of the seats as sensitive from the point of view of violence or VIP constituencies.

J&K Elections: The EC also announced that elections to 3 seats in the Kashmir Valley would be held separately on May 21, 1996. Jammu and Kashmir has 6 seats, of which 3 are in the Kashmir Valley. But on March 25, the EC decided to revise the schedule for J&K. The new schedule has been announced in view of May 21 being observed as *hartal* on account of the death anniversary of Maulvi Farooq. Elections will now be held in J&K on May 7, May 23 and May 30. J&K thus gets the maximum time for campaigning.

10th Lok Sabha ends with walk-out: The 10th Lok Sabha, which was characterised by economic reforms on the one hand and a number of multi-crore scams on the other hand, ended its last session on the February 12, 1996. The last day of the session began with a threat from the Opposition to bring down the government on the hawala case. BJP's hawala motion, however, fizzled out as some members of the Left Front tried to bring

Recent Economic News

First half credit and monetary policy

The Reserve Bank of India made a series of changes including reduction of Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) by another 1% and changes in the existing norms in non-resident External Rupee Accounts (NRE) schemes, export credit refinance and selective credit refinance in its first half credit and monetary policy for 1996-97.

The CRR has been brought down from 14 to 13%, the CRR on NRE accounts from 10% to zero, while the NRE deposit rate has been freed for two years. RBI governor C. Rangarajan said that the central objective of doing this was price stability. Stable prices provided the most conducive environment for growth and inflation control was the target. Taking into account the GDP growth of 6%, the rate of expansion of money supply (M_2) in the economy should be between 15.5-16%. It is expected that bank deposits would increase by Rs 68,000 crore (16%) and credit provided by banks by 20%.

The reduction in CRR is expected to release Rs 3800 crore in the economy and another Rs 1,400 crore due to the removal of CRR on NRE accounts. At the same time, Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) has been reduced on outstanding NRE accounts from 30 to 25%.

RBI said it was also withdrawing existing restrictions on Money Market Mutual Funds (MMMFs). These would now be available to corporates and others at par with other mutual funds.

The following are the highlights of the new policy:

- Cash reserve ratio reduced from 14 to 13% in two phases of 0.5% each.
- SLR on outstanding liabilities under NRE accounts scheme reduced from 30 to 25%.
- No CRR to be maintained on NRE deposits.
- Interest rates on NRE term deposits of over two years freed.
- Corporates allowed to invest in MMMFs.
- Banks allowed to fix their own aggregate gap limits for forex transactions.
- 45% refinance of outstanding export credit.

EXIM Scheme to protect cash flows of banks and exporters

The Export-Import Bank (EXIM) has introduced a guarantee and refinance scheme to protect the cash flows of banks and exporters. Any payment made by the EXIM Bank, on invocation of its guarantee by a commercial bank, will be treated as refinance. The exporter can thus continue to do business without his cash flow being affected on account of defaults by overseas buyers. It would also strengthen the position of the bank by protecting its loan assets.

The programme is conceived as facilitating uninterrupted exports and would cover post-shipment credits extended by commercial banks.

out an amendment to the motion. Finally, the motion was rejected by voice vote after all major political parties had walked out of the house.

President withholds assent to poll-eve ordinances: President Shankar Dayal

Sharma, on March 19, 1996, refused to promulgate two ordinances which were allegedly designed to improve the electoral prospects of the Congress. These ordinances, one towards reducing the campaign period from three to two weeks and

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the other to extend reservation to Dalit Christians, were sent to the President by the Home Ministry. These ordinances generated a lot of heat and the parties approached the President against any such proclamation. Dr Sharma said, passing the ordinances would amount to constitutional impropriety because the Parliament, from which the present government draws its mandate, would not meet again to ratify them. The President's stand was hailed by the Opposition but caused an embarrassment for the ruling government.

In refusing, the President has exercised the safeguard provided by the 44th Amendment against Article 74, which makes it obligatory for the President to act according to the advice of the Council of Ministers.

Model Code of Conduct: With the announcement of election schedule, the Model Code of Conduct came into force on March 19, 1996. The code debar parties or candidates to invoke caste or communal feelings for votes. It also states that no party or candidate shall indulge in any activity which may aggravate existing differences or create mutual hatred between different caste and communities. It brings criticism on private life of candidates out of the scope of campaigning.

The code has special guidelines for the party in power. It debar the use of any official machinery or infrastructure for campaigning and prohibits the mixing of official tours with poll campaigns or any announcements on any gainful policy or project.

On March 27, 1996 the EC also announced model code for the electronic media, to ensure that the media give unbiased coverage to the parties. The code of conduct is being taken seriously by the EC.

Religion not to be poll plank: The Supreme Court warned political parties not to garner votes in the name of religion. Giving a verdict on a petition seeking a review of an earlier judgement on

the use of *Hindutva* in the campaign, the Court said that it did not permit anyone to seek votes on the basis of religion.

Political Parties Get into Action: Soon after the announcement of election schedule, political parties started intensifying their activities for ensuring their better standing in the Lok Sabha.

On March 22, 1996, the CPI(M) became the first political party to release the list of its candidates as also its manifesto for the 11th Lok Sabha elections.

The Congress President P.V. Narasimha Rao, on March 24, formally launched the party's election campaign from the Red Fort. In his speech he warned people against attempts to exploit caste and religious sentiments. On March 27, Congress, amidst differences amongst its members, announced a poll tie-up with AIADMK.

Differences surfaced within the Janata Dal over the electoral understanding with Bahujan Samaj Party and the Samajwadi Party. On March 25, the Janata Dal and the Samajwadi Party (SP) of Mulayam Singh forged into electoral alliance in UP. The decision of Janata Dal to contest 16 seats

from UP, leaving a big share for the SP, also created some rift within the ranks of the JD. Finally, on March 30, the UP unit of JD delinked itself from the parent unit as several JD members joined Congress.

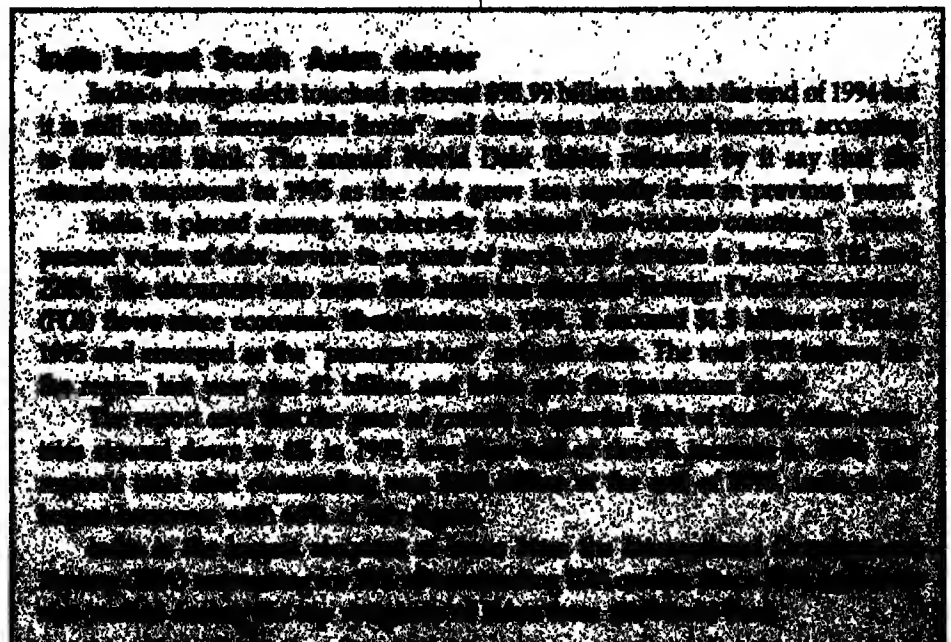
The Bharatiya Janata Party President, Mr L.K. Advani, announced on March 24 to make *Hindutva* the BJP's mascot. BJP decided to project itself as the lone challenger to the Congress under the leadership of Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

Fight for symbols: On March 12, 1996, the EC rejected the claim of Narain Dutt Tiwari group to be the 'real' Indian National Congress. It allowed the Congress-I to retain the 'hand' symbol.

The Election Commission also declined the request of Tiwari group for the symbol 'two bullocks' or 'folded hands'. Subsequently, the Commission approved 'a lady with flowers in her hand' as election symbol of the All India Indira Congress.

The Supreme Court directed the All India Indira Congress to add the suffix 'Tiwari' in its name so that there was no room for confusion.

Supreme Court makes parties ac-



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countable for expenses: The Supreme Court has ruled that expenditure incurred by a political party on a candidate in an election would fall within the prescribed ceiling of expenses if the source of money was not revealed. It said that parties not maintaining books of accounts and not filing income tax returns could not take advantage of the provision exempting the expenditure incurred by parties on their candidates. The judgement prohibits use of unaccounted money in an election. Filing of income tax returns becomes compulsory and the revenue secretary can initiate inquiry against parties violating the law.

JAMMU & KASHMIR

Hazratbal crisis once again

ON March 24, 1996 crisis again engulfed the historic Hazratbal shrine which houses the holy hair of Prophet Mohammed. During an encounter between security forces and the JKLF militants, 9 militants and 2 policemen were killed. Following successful negotiations, the militants vacated the shrine on March 26 and J&K Armed Police took control of the shrine.

There was another attempt by the militants to enter the shrine on March 30. However, JK Police thwarted all attempts. In an encounter with the militants 22 of them were killed. JKLF faction chief Shabir Siddiqi and others who had vacated the shrine earlier were among those killed.

Human Rights Activist Killed: Lawyer and human rights activist Jalil Andrabi was detained by Rashtriya Rifles on March 8, 1996 and then declared missing. On March 28, his decomposed body was found in Srinagar. The police are investigating the case, but popular perception is that he died in custody. Normal life was brought to a halt as people protested by observing a *bandh*. The killing has also evoked strong protests from international human rights groups and has threatened

to tarnish India's reputation.

Fizzling Militancy: The bold initiatives of four top militant leaders for entering into a dialogue with the Union Government further got a boost on March 10, 1996 when 80 Kashmiri militants, a majority of them hailing from Hizbul Mujahiddeen, laid down their arms. Thus, evidence is picking up to suggest the growing disenchantment of the militant cadres in the Valley. Responding to the changing environment, the Centre invited the militant leaders to New Delhi for talks. Amidst criticism from Pakistan, the first ever direct dialogue between the government and the militants was held on March 15. The talks were held between Union Home Minister S.B. Chavan and a group of four militants which is now working under the banner of Forum for Permanent Solution of Jammu and Kashmir. To end the gun culture, the militants suggested a three-point formula for building confidence. During the talks, the Home Minister categorically ruled out the demand by a section to have tripartite negotiations which included Pakistan.

The Delhi talks led to the appointment of a high-powered three-member team, headed by V.K. Jain, Special Secretary (Home), to work out modalities for further discussions with the Kashmiri leaders. After having a successful start at Jammu on March 21, the three-member Central team experienced a mild setback when two of the four former Kashmiri militants boycotted the second round of talks in Srinagar on March 23, 1996, protesting against the announcement of the elections. The talks focused on the three demands by the militant leaders, which included ending of aggressive operations by security forces, release of prisoners and disarming of 'pro-government' militants.

SCANDALS

CBI to probe Bihar Fodder Scam

THE constitution of a one-man commission by the Bihar Government, to go into withdrawals in excess of the bud-

geted amounts from various treasuries by officials of Animal Husbandry Department, could not satisfy the opposition. Following the insistence of non-Janata Dal parties, the Patna High Court on March 11, 1996 directed the CBI to probe into the multi-crore scandal. Suspending investigations by the State Police, the Court directed the CBI to complete the investigations within four months. Contesting that under Article 226 of the Constitution the High Court has no jurisdiction to order the CBI probe without the consent of the State Government, the Bihar Government, on March 15, 1996, moved a petition before the Supreme Court. The petition was rejected and the green signal was given to the CBI to probe into the Rs 500-crore scam.

SC assumes monitoring of Chandraswamy probe

EXPRESSING its dissatisfaction with the progress made by CBI in probing various charges against Chandraswamy, the Supreme Court, on March 25, 1996, took over the day-to-day monitoring of the CBI's investigation. The cases against Chandraswamy include criminal association with underworld dons Dawood Ibrahim and Babloo Srivastava, the St Kitts forgery case and violations of FERA and Income Tax rules. Chandraswamy had spent Rs 300 crore on about 1000 foreign trips and the Court wondered about the source of the funds.

The government, however, expressed its helplessness on April 2, in taking any action regarding violation of the FERA by the godman. Revenue secretary mentioned difficulties in the investigations. The Supreme Court made the chiefs of the investigating agencies personally answerable regarding the cases. The Court expressed displeasure over the tardy conduct of investigations.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

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CBI files case against 4 JMM MPs

ON March 27, 1996 the CBI informed the Delhi High Court that it had registered FIRs against four members of Lok Sabha under the Prevention of Corruption Act. The issue, involving four associates of Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), surfaced into prominence with the filing of a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) by the Rashtriya Mukti Morcha in February, 1996. The PIL alleged that Suraj Mandal, Shailendra Mahto, Shibu Soren and Simon Marandi had received huge amounts of money in 1993, to vote against the no-confidence motion faced by the Rao Government. To expedite settlement of the controversy, the Court expressed that the CBI should complete the investigations by April 12, 1996.

Mumbai Port Trust Scandal

THE CBI filed a FIR against the Mumbai Port Trust (MPT) Chairman and now State Chief Secretary D.K. Afzulpurkar and Deputy Chairman B.P. Pandey for dishonestly flouting government instructions and board guidelines in the matter of allotting prime commercial space to its counsel, Kiran Choudhary, at a fraction of the cost. Investigations by the CBI revealed that in 1993 the rooms in the office complex of the MPT had been leased to Choudhary, the daughter-in-law of Bansilal, at the throwaway price of Rs 57.20 per square metre when the market rate exceeded Rs 1000 per square metre. In turn, Choudhary sub-leased the accommodation to a private company, helping her to reap sizeable profits. This is the first time that the State's Chief Secretary has been the subject of official investigation.

The investigations show irregularities in the MPT as well as the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT). They relate to the time when Jagdish Tytler was the Minister for Surface Transport. Choudhary is the general secretary of the Delhi unit of the Con-

gress (I) and was appointed the counsel for MPT, JNPT and Delhi Transport Corporation by Tytler.

In a strange turn, CBI superintendent Y.P. Singh, who was handling the case, was transferred back to the State. But the charges of lowering the rent in an arbitrary manner and flouting rules for allotting the premises to Choudhary are likely to remain, even though there are allegations that these are politically motivated.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH White Paper on Chakma Refugees

ON March 15, 1996 the Arunachal Pradesh government released a white paper on the Chakma and Hajong refugees' issue. It said that during the last three decades, the issue has been a matter of simmering discontent among indigenous tribal people of Arunachal Pradesh. The 84-page paper alleged that it was a casual decision of the Governor of Assam, on April 10, 1964, to settle the refugees in Arunachal Pradesh without taking into consideration the legal protection of the indigenous tribal people and their tradition, culture and customs. The origin of the problem lies in the manner of settlement as it had violated principles and legal provisions. It says that the customary laws of indigenous tribals have been violated and traditional rights encroached upon by allowing the settlement of the Chakma and Hajong refugees.

The paper states that highly exaggerated cases of alleged human rights violations have been raised by Chakma leaders. The demand for citizenship to the refugees have created panic in the minds of local people that they would be reduced to a minority. The paper says that the very polity of Arunachal is in jeopardy. It says that the time has come to redress the long

pending grievances of the local people of Arunachal Pradesh.

RIGHT TO LIFE

Attempt to suicide penal offence

THE Supreme Court on March 21, 1996 ruled that an attempt to suicide or its abetment was a penal offence. It reversed its earlier judgement which had declared that the provisions for punishment under the Indian Penal Code were unconstitutional. It rejected all contentions challenging Section 306 of the IPC (abetment) which provides for punishment upto 10 years imprisonment and a fine. It also upheld the constitutional validity of Section 309 IPC (attempt to commit suicide) which provides for simple imprisonment upto one year or fine or both. The ruling of the Supreme Court states that the right to life as guaranteed under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution, did not include the right to die. Thus, the Supreme Court overruled the judgments of the High Courts of Bombay and Delhi, as also its own judgment of 1994 which declared Section 309 of the IPC as unconstitutional. The judges clarified that they had not taken into consideration the debate on euthanasia (mercy killing) and said that it was a matter of policy which fell within the domain of legislature.

INDIA-RUSSIA

Pact on hotline between Delhi and Moscow

DURING the visit of Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov, on March 30, 1996, two agreements on opening a New Delhi-Moscow hotline and educational, scientific and cultural exchanges were signed. Mr Primakov stated that Russia backed India's stand that Kashmir was a bilateral matter to be resolved within the

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framework of the Simla Agreement. Strengthening the relations between the two countries was a strategic goal of his country.

INDIA-EU

New Cooperation agreement offered

THE European Union offered a new co-operation agreement with India to upgrade and promote relations. The Foreign Ministers of EU troika, comprising current President Italy, past President of Spain and incoming President of Ireland, and European Commission vice-President Manuel Martin met Prime Minister Rao and External Affairs Minister Mukerjee during their visit on March 4, 1996.

However, the EU remained non-committal to India's inclusion in the next Europe-Asia summit to be held in London. The country had already been excluded from the recent summit held in Bangkok.

ENVIRONMENT

Land degradation continues in India

NEARLY half of the total geographical area of 329 million has degraded in India, while more of it is being degraded every year, according to the 13th report of the Parliament Standing Committee on Science, Technology, Environment and Forests. The Committee did not agree with the view of the Ministry of Environment and Forests that the target of extending the forest cover of 33% of the area could not be met due to the inadequate allocation of funds.

The Committee has emphasised compensatory afforestation to take place at a faster pace. It said that during the eighth plan, afforestation efforts suffered

TAIWAN

Lee wins Historic Election

PRESIDENT Lee Teng-Hui stormed to a resounding victory in Taiwan's first direct presidential elections held on March 23, 1996. Lee's win was a message of defiance to Beijing, which tried for weeks with menacing war games to deter the voters. The strategy evidently backfired and instead of scaring Taiwan's 14.3 million voters, it increased support for Lee's defiance of China.

Evidence of anti-China sentiment was visible in the strong showing by a candidate advocating severing ties with the mainland in favour of an independent Taiwan.

China had threatened to recover Taiwan by force if it became independent. As a pressure tactic, the United States sent a naval fleet off the coast of Taiwan and insisted on a peaceful settlement of tensions between Taiwan and China. The Chinese conducted military exercises close to the island using live ammunition and fired

missiles into the sea close to Taiwan, but later assured the US that they did not plan to invade Taiwan.

As expected, a war of words broke out between USA and China. China attacked the US House of Representatives for passing a motion to defend Taiwan in case of a Chinese attack as an encroachment on Beijing's sovereignty. The US had expressed support for Taiwan's election, hailed as the first time in 5,000 years of history that Chinese people were electing their leader.

BANGLADESH

Begum Zia Steps down

BANGLADESH Prime Minister Khaleda Zia resigned on March 30, 1996, amidst unprecedented political upheaval in the country. President Abdur Rahman Biswas dissolved the Parliament, as Bangladeshis heaved a sigh of relief at the resolution of the political crisis which had seen countrywide non-cooperation movement that had brought the country to a standstill.

Debate on Multinationals

On March 19, 1996, Director General of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Tarun Das threw a bombshell and restarted the debate on Multinational Corporations (MNCs). He said that recent MNC entries in India were for 'one night stands', plugging off obsolete technology and building access to the Indian market through minimum production. Their objective was to generate profits quickly. Indian partners were acquired to get approvals but once these were obtained, they would be ousted out. Indian managers were not employed and foreign managers and CEOs were brought in.

There was palpable outrage among the MNCs, as also among government officials. The Congress debated whether multinationals should be incorporated in the party's manifesto. As points and counterpoints were made, there was no doubt that the debate had been opened and it was unlikely to be closed.

The Department of Industrial Change and Commercial Industry (DCCI) and the Association of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ACCI) have been working on a joint front to bring about a change in the MNC policy. They have been successful in getting the government to agree to a new policy which would allow MNCs to set up wholly owned subsidiaries in India.

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Former Chief Justice of Bangladesh, Mr Mohammad Habibur Rahman, was designated by the President as the chief advisor with the status of a Prime Minister. He has taken the responsibility of heading the non-party interim caretaker government and arrange elections to Parliament within 90 days.

Begum Zia had been sworn in as Prime Minister on March 19, 1996 but had to step down after only 12 days. The anti-Khaleda agitation took a decisive turn with the holding of last month's general elections, which the Opposition described as farcical. Opposition leader and Awami League president Sheikh Hasina spearheaded the movement for holding elections under a caretaker government and had launched a non-cooperation movement to force Begum Zia out of power. Though Begum Zia had announced several concessions, these could not pacify the agitationists. The crisis took an adverse turn on March 25, 1996, when employees of the Bangladesh secretariat declined to accept the 'illegal government'.

SRI LANKA

Efforts to end ethnic conflict

SRI Lanka has begun efforts to find a political solution to its ethnic conflict. A devolution package was presented to the Parliamentary Select Committee on Constitutional reforms, on March 7, 1996. The United National Party (UNP) said, it is committed to the concept of devolution of power to the provinces but the party does not want the conversion of Sri Lanka into a federal State. Even the ruling party, People's Alliance, is divided over the question of converting the unitary State into a federal one.

Though it is too early to say whether the devolution package would be acceptable, there is optimism and the Justice Minister G.L. Peiris is hopeful that the conflict would be resolved.

NEPAL

Deuba Government Survives

THE six-month old coalition government led by Sher Bahadur Deuba survived the vote of confidence in the 'Pratinidhi Sabha', Nepal's Lower House of Parliament, on March 24, 1996. The no trust motion was moved by the Communists Party of Nepal and was rejected by 106 to 90 votes. The party had accused the government with charges of creating political instability, violating human rights and wrecking the national economy. In view of the mounting pressure and the apparent rift in the Rashtriya Prajatantra Party, King Birendra convened a special session of the Pratinidhi Sabha on March 20, 1996. The defeat of the motion gave a new lease of life to Deuba's government.

US-PAKISTAN

US clears arms supply

THE Clinton administration decided on March 20, 1996 to proceed with a shipment of arms worth \$368 million to Pakistan, despite opposition from Congressmen concerned with Islamabad's recent purchase of nuclear weapons related equipment from China. Barely three weeks after the announcement on withholding arms to Pakistan, the Clinton administration decided to proceed with the shipment of arms as envisaged under the Brown Amendment. The Iran factor and a perception of US losing credibility have been projected by the administration as instrumental in the recent decision. Senator Hank Brown, author of the Brown Amendment, hailed the decision. But Senator Larry Pressler, author of Pressler Amendment, which bars aid to Pakistan, con-

World trade growth slows down, says WTO report

A report published by the World Trade Organisation (WTO) says that after a bumper year in 1994, world trade expansion slowed slightly to 8 per cent in 1995. The value of cross border sales of goods and services topped the \$6 trillion mark for the first time. The report predicted that increase in world trade would ease further to 7% in 1996, down from 9.5% growth witnessed in 1994, but still well above the growth in international output.

The US remained the world's biggest trader and deficit nation in 1995, with imports at \$770.8 billion and exports at \$583.9 billion. Germany and Japan followed in the rankings.

Exports of office and telecom equipment led the growth items. They now account for 12% of merchandise trade, more than farm products. Sales of clothing stagnated, due to ease in US demand.

In overall value terms, world merchandise exports rose by 19% to \$4.9 trillion last year. Commercial services like banking and tourism were worth an estimated \$1.2 trillion, up by 14% since 1994. The big value hike was mainly due to the depreciation of the dollar against most other currencies.

The volume in trade was in line with predictions. The boom in 1994 was regarded as too high to be sustainable. The main gains from the GATT agreement, reached in 1994, are not expected before the end of the century.

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demned the decision.

Chinese plan for N-Bomb: The *Washington Post* reported on April 1, 1996, that US spies in the early 1980s found a blueprint for building a Pakistani nuclear bomb that must have come from China. The paper said that the blueprint was found in the luggage of Abdul Qadeer Khan, Pakistan's nuclear weapon designer. However, Pakistan's Foreign Minister at that time, Yakub Khan, denied such a programme existed. The report came when US officials are weighing evidence that a Chinese company sold Pakistan ring magnets for enriching Uranium.

HUMAN RIGHTS

China Debunks self-determination

MUCH to Pakistan's discomfiture, China has debunked the issue of self-determination as a 'fraudulent measure' being used by Western powers to interfere in the affairs of other nations. Speaking at the UN Human Rights Commission (UNHRC), China's representative Pang Sen was replying to US and Swedish comments about its human rights record. The significance of this statement, however, was not lost on Pakistan, which has raised the bogey of self-determination with regard to Kashmir. China was supported by Iran, with its delegates saying that self-determination was being used as an instrument to beat the developing countries.

RUSSIA

Is the former Soviet Union reuniting again?

ON March 15, 1996, the lower house of Russian Parliament, Duma, voted in favour of a resolution reversing the Russian legislature's decision to renounce the 1922 treaty that formed the Soviet Union. It declared the 1991 accords between Russia, Ukraine and Belarus invalid and called

on President Yeltsin to take steps to reintegrate the former Soviet republics. The resolution was moved by Russian Communist Party and had the support of 250 deputies to 98 against.

Though the resolution cannot bring back the former USSR, the vote strengthens the impression that the communists are becoming popular and are in tune with the mood of nostalgia in Russia. However, the vote touched off a storm of controversy in Russia. Leaders of the post-Soviet republics warned of renewed Russian imperialism if the Communist Party gets back to power in the Presidential elections to be held in June. President Eduard Shevardnadze of Georgia called for a summit of CIS to stop the Communist-inspired attempt to undermine the sovereignty of the 15 States that are now independent.

The repercussions on the Presidential elections were sure to be felt and Yeltsin declared the resolution as outrageous and scandalous. Afraid that it would derail the elections, he indicated that he would veto the bill and would block any attempt to revive the USSR. US Secretary of State Warren Christopher condemned the resolution and called it highly irresponsible.

Kremlin informed the Ambassadors of the CIS based in Moscow that the communist sponsored resolution would not be implemented. Presidents of the CIS felt that there was no way of uniting together under Soviet domination.

Russia and Belarus to merge: Russia and Belarus signed a treaty on April 2, 1996, binding the two States into a broad economic and political union, the Russia-Belarus Union. The Union will be governed by a executive committee and Supreme Council consisting of the Presidents and Prime Ministers of the two countries. It was also decided to float a common currency by 1997 besides unification of the budgets. However, the two States will retain their independence, sovereignty, flags and national anthem.

The move provoked an unprecedented surge of nationalist and anti-Russian feelings in Belarus and massive demonstrations were held against the move under Nationalist Leader Zenon Poznyak.

CIS countries sign treaty: Presidents of Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Kryghiz republics signed a treaty on March 29, 1996 on their economic and humanitarian integration, creating a cooperation mechanism within the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). The five-year treaty provides for free flow of capital, goods and human resources across the boundaries of the four nations. Inspite of the union, leaders are unsure whether they are creating a new union or merely enhancing cooperation.

Yeltsin Halts Combat in Chechnya

ON March 31, 1996 Russian President Boris Yeltsin announced to halt the military operations in Chechnya. The announcement to end the 16-month long war in the breakaway region of Chechnya came in the wake of mounting demonstrations in Moscow, St. Petersburg and other cities. Since December 1994, when President Yeltsin sent troops to end the three-year old self-proclaimed independence of Muslim dominated Chechnya, over 30,000 people have been killed. Announcing his peace plan, President Yeltsin wanted discussions with the Chechen leader Dzhokhar Dudayev, but affirmed that Russian forces would continue to fight terrorism.

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

South Pacific declared N-free

ON March 25, 1996 the United States, Britain and France signed a treaty declaring 30 million square km of South Pacific a nuclear-free zone. Following announcement made by France in January, 1996, to end its nuclear testing, the signing of treaty draws an extra significance. The South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty was

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adopted in 1985 by the 16-member South Pacific Forum. The Treaty bans the testing, storage and deployment of nuclear weapons in the zone. However, analysts feel that the treaty will have little more than symbolic significance until a comprehensive test ban is affected. On the other hand, New Zealand Prime Minister Jim Bolger felt that the signing closes a sorry chapter for South Pacific. Japan too welcomed the treaty as a step towards nuclear non-proliferation.

IRAN

Rushdie Exonerated

ON March 11, 1996 Iran announced its decision to drop the death sentence on the Indian-born British writer Salman Rushdie, the author of the book 'The Satanic Verses'. The relief came to Rushdie after seven years. It was on February 14, 1989 that the late Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini issued the '*fatwa*' pronouncing the death sentence on him and in a radio broadcast exhorted all Muslims to carry out the sentence. Though Rushdie had tendered unqualified apologies for the distress caused on account of his book, the death sentence was not revoked. Since then Rushdie has been living under tight security. While distinguishing between '*fatwa*' and '*hukam*', Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani disclosed that the death sentence was never meant to be carried out.

MIDDLE EAST

Terrorist Bombings and a peace summit

BREAKING a six-month respite, Hamas suicide bombers struck different cities in Israel in March. In Jerusalem, 24 people were killed and 60 injured. Another bomb exploded in Ashkelon, killing one and injuring 20. This was not all. A week later, Islamist suicide bombers struck again. An-

other 19 people were killed in Jerusalem and 13 in Tel Aviv.

Fighting for political survival, Israel's Prime Minister Shimon Peres responded to widespread anger by sending the army into the West Bank to punish the bombers' relatives, close Islamist institutions and catch as many militants as it could. The security forces under PLO's Yasser Arafat also made widespread arrests in the areas under its control.

Summit of Peacemakers: Responding to the resurgence of terrorist activities and in a bid to keep the Middle East peace process alive, leaders from nearly 30 nations participated in a summit on peace and terrorism in the Egyptian Red Sea resort of Sharm-el-Sheikh on March 13, 1996. Bill Clinton and Hosni Mubarak jointly chaired the summit in which European heads of government and representatives from the Arab Gulf States participated. Syria, Iran and Lebanon were absentees. The summit was dubbed as a PR effort to express support for Peres, whose popularity ratings fell. President Clinton was also keen to protect his image as peacemaker, especially as both leaders face elections in their countries. Any further bomb attacks would harm the peace process and the reputations of the two leaders.

Meanwhile, President Clinton has pledged \$100 million for an American-Israeli fight against terrorism.

TURKEY

Yilmaz Government survives

THE 11 week-long political uncertainty in Turkey ended on March 12, 1996 when Premier Mesut Yilmaz's coalition government won a vote of confidence. The coalition of Yilmaz's Motherland Party and Tansu Ciller's True Path, won by 257 to 206 in the 550-member parliament. During the voting, the Democratic Left Party of former Premier Bulent Ecevit abstained.

Yilmaz had won the Turkish presidential approval for his cabinet for right-centre coalition on March 6.

G-7 debate on social security systems

LABOUR ministers from the world's seven richest nations want to put a more humane face on free-market economies and streamline Europe's costly social welfare system. At the G-7 conference held in Lille in France, France called for a third path to avoid the pitfalls of the American system of *laissez-faire* capitalism and also to avoid Europe's expensive system of social security. But the G-7 nations did not call for major changes in their unemployment policies, even though the aim was to get Europe's 22 million unemployed back to work.

The US Secretary of Commerce, Ron Brown defended the US free market system that had created 8.5 million jobs in the last three years. However, he conceded that the US model neglected the poorest and the jobless. At the same time, European nations like France and Italy were now facing the bill for years of overspending on welfare. Unemployment in these nations was double the US rate of 5.5%.

The Europeans, however, feel that the US system relies too much on creation of jobs that give workers little job security or health insurance. Jean-Claude Paye, head of the 26-nation Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) felt that the US system leads to social dysfunction. He felt that technology would bring in major economic upheaval but felt that Europe will have to change its social welfare system to reduce the ranks of unemployed left behind by change.

European nations like Germany and France are concerned about protecting workers' benefits and wage levels and differ from the US approach. French President Chirac outlined several job and growth boosting initiatives. These included reducing budget

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deficits to bring about a drop in inflation, overhaul welfare systems to give recipients more incentives to find work, vocational training adapted to the job market and better labour-management dialogue.

European labour unions held a parallel summit outside the conference centre to demand assurances that there would be no cuts in the social benefits. Unemployment is highest in Germany and Japan this year, since World War II, and stands at 11.1 and 3.4% respectively. France and Italy lead with 11.8 and 12% respectively.

UN

Africa Programme launched

THE UN on March 14, 1996 launched a 10-year, \$25 billion programme for Africa, with support from the World Bank. The 'System-wide Special initiative on Africa' is aimed at projects on education, health, food security, water, sanitation, information technology and governance programmes such as building an effective civil service and judicial systems. The social development projects are also aimed at reductions in amounts spent on arms and conspicuous consumption.

Strategies for debt relief are also on the list but the UN has less influence in this area. African debt is currently \$313 billion, equal to 234% of the continent's export income. Nearly half the debt is concentrated in Nigeria, Ivory Coast, Sudan, Zaire and Angola.

AUSTRALIA

Howard assumes power

ON March 11, 1996 John Howard took over as the 25th Prime Minister of Australia. During the recent elections on March 2, the Conservatives registered a landslide win to end the 13-year-old rule of Labour. Leading the Liberal-National coalition, Howard took over the rein from Paul Keating

who ruled for more than four years.

Howard pledged closer ties with India and said his government would not oppose New Delhi's admission to the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC). India's bilateral relations with Australia are expected to improve with the new government.

BOSNIA

Sarajevo united

DIVIDED by war for almost four years, Sarajevo was reunited on March 19, 1996 as the last of the Serb areas passed to the Muslim-Croat federation. After days of looting and arson by angry Serbs, the federation police moved into Grbavica to take control.

UK

Crisis Due to Mad Cow Disease

THE mad cow disease, which was first recognised in November 1986, surfaced into prominence in March with 10

children getting infected. The disease is known as Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), popularly called mad cow disease, a disease that destroys the nerve cells of cows and can pass on to humans through consumption of beef.

The fear of infected beef caused a panic around the globe as countries suspended imports. Much to the agony of the British Prime Minister John Major, the European Union on March 25, 1996 recommended a global ban on British beef export. On March 27, the European Commission, while offering help to the battered industry, banned the sale of British beef and cattle to the world. Britain agreed to slaughter its 12 million cattle stock to check the disease.

SPAIN

Socialist rule ends

CONSERVATIVE leader Jose Maria Aznar's Popular Party edged the Socialist Party of Prime Minister Felipe

Capital flow to India, 38 other big nations to fall: IIF report

Capital flows to 39 major borrowing developing economies, including India, are projected to fall by almost 14 per cent or \$ 3000 million this year, according to a report of the Institute of International Finance (IIF).

However, the IIF said that flows to these emerging economies increased by an estimated \$ 18,000 million in 1995, rising to \$ 216,350 million. Delaying predictions that cutbacks earlier in the year to Mexico, Brazil and Argentina would result in a drop in aggregate flows to the 39 emerging economies.

IIF is a worldwide association of 195 financial institutions with offices in 39 countries. Its members include most of world's largest commercial banks. The report includes aggregate debt data from the following economies: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Pakistan and others.

The report said that most private flows will, however, favour countries like India, Pakistan and China while excluding most of Africa.

The IIF projected that total net external flows to these economies would drop to \$ 186,200 million this year as net official flows fell back to levels of the early 1990s.

Private capital flows, which may account for some 30 per cent of flows to emerging economies this year, will remain almost unchanged at about \$ 55,000 million, the report said.

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Gonzalez in elections, bringing an end to the rule by Socialists. Aznar campaigned largely on the proposal that consolidation of Spain's 20-year old democracy requires exorcising fears of the right wing rooted in four decades of oppressive rule by dictator Francisco Franco. Aznar was, however, unable to win a majority.

SWEDEN

Persson becomes Premier

FOLLOWING Ingvar Carlsson's decision to quit politics, the Swedish Parliament (Riksdag), on March 21, 1996, elected Goran Persson, the former Finance

Minister as the Prime Minister. Carlsson had succeeded Olof Palme after he was assassinated in 1986 and he ruled Sweden till September 1991 and then again took over the rein in September 1994.

KOREA

N. Korea violates armistice

ON April 6, 1996, armed North Korean troops marched into the buffer zone with South Korea—their third violation in as many days of the 43-year-old armistice, which their government says is worthless.

On April 4, 1996 North Korea had announced that it would no longer observe the armistice that had ended the

three-year Korean War in 1953.

The violation came despite US efforts to contact North Korea to protest the incursions. Officials in both Washington and Seoul called North Korea's violation serious but said it appeared to pose no risk of renewed fighting on the divided Korean Peninsula.

The moves of North Korea are being seen as latest efforts to force the United States to negotiate a peace treaty, by proving the 1953 armistice ineffective. Without a peace treaty, technically, the Korean war is still on.

Korean border is the world's most heavily fortified. It is edged with mine fields and crisscrossed with barbed wire.

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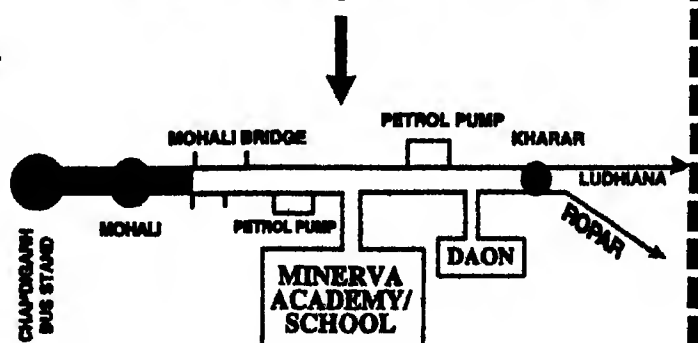
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Current General Knowledge

ABBREVIATIONS

PSLV: Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle.

IRS: Indian Remote Sensing Satellite.

AWARDS

Jnanpith Award

THE 31st Bharatiya Jnanpith Award was presented to Malayalam writer M.T. Vasudevan Nair at a ceremony held in Thiruvananthapuram. Poet G. Sankara Kurup, writer S.K. Pottekkat and novelist Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai were the three Malayalam recipients of the award earlier.

Mr Nair edits Mathrubhoomi literary periodicals. He has written 8 novels, 16 short story collections, one drama, two travelogues, three literary studies and the scripts of many Malayalam films.

Oscar Awards, 1996

Best picture: Braveheart.

Best director: Mel Gibson, Braveheart.

Best actor: Nicolas Cage, Leaving Las Vegas.

Best actress: Susan Sarandon, Dead Man Walking.

Best supporting actor: Kevin Spacey, The Usual Suspects.

Best supporting actress: Mira Sorvino, Mighty Aphrodite.

Best foreign language film: Antonia's Line (The Netherlands).

Filmfare Awards, 1996

Best film: Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge

Best actor: Shahrukh Khan

Best actress: Kajol

Best director: Aditya Chopra (DDLJ)

Best music director: A.R. Rahman (Rangeela)

Best playback singer (male): Udit Narayan (DDLJ)

Best playback singer (female): Kavita Krishnamoorthy (Yarana)

Best villain: Mithun Chakraborty (Jallad)

Best comedian: Anupam Kher (DDLJ)

Lifetime achievement award: Sunil Dutt, Ashok Kumar and Vijayanthimala.

BOOKS

Blood Sport

WRITTEN by James Stewart, it is an account of the Whitewater investments made by the Clintons. According to the book, Hillary Rodham Clinton played an active role in the Whitewater investment as a source for her daughter's education, even as her husband was agreeing to get out of the unsuccessful venture. According to the book, Mrs Clinton single handedly managed the investment after 1986.

The Clintons' investment in the Arkansas land development known as Whitewater was in partnership with James McDougal, former head of the defunct Madison Guaranty Savings and Loan, and his wife Susan. It is at present the centre of investigations by an independent counsel and a Senate committee.

Ek Tukra Dharti, Ek Tukra Aasmaan

IT is the first collection of poems written by former Prime Minister V.P. Singh, which was released recently. The book has paintings by Singh on the cover and at the back. Many of the poems in the slim volume are also illustrated by the poet.

DEFENCE

Deal to Upgrade MiG-21

INDIA has signed Rs 1100 crore contract with Russian aircraft building companies to upgrade and modernise 125 MiG-21 fighter jets of the Indian Air Force (IAF).

The ambitious MiG-21 upgradation programme of the IAF had been hanging fire for quite some time and though the

technical aspects had been worked out, resolving of the financial aspect had been holding it back.

The upgradation and modernisation of the MiG-21s will involve a complete replacement of its avionics and weapon systems, which is expected to make it more than a match for the U.S. F-16s sought by Pakistan and will also extend their life span well into the next century.

DISCOVERY

Undersea hot springs found near Andaman

INDIAN scientists have discovered a number of undersea hot springs that facilitate formation of minerals of valuable metals off the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

These high temperature vents open on the seabed through which hydrothermal solutions as hot as 300 degrees Celsius are ejected into the seawater.

Though such hydrothermal mineral deposits have been reported from several locations in the Pacific and Atlantic oceans, this is the first time scientists have obtained a strong evidence of existence in the Andaman sea.

Discovery of sea-floor hydrothermal system is regarded as a boon to ore deposit research. However, scientists are yet to develop a potentially cost-effective way to exploit these vast mineral resources, rich in platinum, gold, silver and other metals.

PERSONS

Inamdar, Shafi

SHAFI Inamdar, who died in Mumbai at the age of 47, was a comedian, character actor, playwright, director and producer, all rolled in one. He had produced and directed many Gujarati plays. Though he later moved to films and television, theatre remained his first love.

He had acted in Govind Nihalani's *Ardha Satya* and in *Aaj Ki Awaz*. Recently, he had made his film directorial debut with *Hum Dono*.

Inamdar became a household name with the television comedy serial *Yeh Jo Hai Zindagi*, about a decade ago.

PROJECTS

Mughal Road to be revived

FOLLOWING improvement in the overall situation in strife-torn Kashmir Valley, work will start soon on the famous Mughal Road project as an alternative highway between Jammu and Kashmir.

The project, which was shelved in 1990 in view of increased militancy in the Valley, will be completed in four to five years, according to the chief engineer, Beacon, Brig B.S. Dhaliwal.

The road, which would be about 441 km long, originates from Pathankot and reaches Srinagar via Akhnoor, Pir Ki Gali and Shopian.

The road would throw open several far off tourist spots in the Rajouri-Poonch-Shopian areas. It would also enable load carriers and Army convoys to move to Ladakh while reducing the traffic on the highway which often gets blocked due to landslides and sinking of road stretches during winter.

European project to have Indian superconductors

INDIA will supply superconducting magnets for the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) being built by the European Council for Nuclear Research (ECNR) at Geneva.

Indian scientists will also develop software to control the super proton synchrotron which injects protons into the LHC, with the aim of probing the ultimate structure of matter.

Involvement in the project will give Indian scientists an opportunity to develop frontline technologies for the world's most prestigious international project to make highly energised proton beams collide head-on.

India has offered to participate in the construction of the LHC by contributing \$ 25 million worth of material, includ-

ing 12,000 super conducting sextupole corrector magnets. Simultaneously, Indian scientists are proposing to participate in the construction of two detectors of LHC.

The LHC will accelerate protons to energise seven Terra Electron Volts (TeV), which is equal to 1 million electron volts, before allowing the collision.

Scientists hope to understand the ultimate nature of matter through such collisions in the LHC which will be constructed in a 27 km circumference tunnel.

RESEARCH

Humans Originated in Africa, says study

AN international team of researchers has reported that humans originated in sub-Saharan Africa and migrated out of the continent to other parts of the world about 100,000 years ago.

The "out of Africa" theory is supported by one of the largest genetic studies conducted by Dr Kenkidd from Yale University, who used a piece of nuclear DNA (de-oxyribo nucleic acid) to track the travels of both men and women.

The team inferred that humans originated in sub-Saharan Africa, travelled to North-East Africa, losing variety as they migrated, so that only one group was left for the rest of the world.

A smiling robot

THE relation between man and machine has been further narrowed with the Japanese developing a robot head which can see, think and even make facial expressions.

Professor Fumio Hara of Tokyo University, brain behind the invention, said the "head" can express six emotions—anger, sadness, fear, surprise, happiness and disgust.

"I think the face robot represents at least a small improvement on the way man and machine have communicated in the past", Hara said. Robot's skin is made of silicon and its 24 muscles are aluminium hydraulic pistons.

The Robot has red lips and brightly painted eye lashes and it can visualise using small video cameras.

Brain's Timer found by scientists

SCIENTISTS have located the brain's Down stopwatch—the spot that calculates whether you've got enough time to run across the street in front of a car or dash to the bathroom during a TV break.

Unlike the body's other timekeeper, the circadian clock, which keeps hormones, digestion, sleep and other functions running on a 24-hour cycle, the interval clock measures much shorter times.

The location of the timer is in the dead centre of the brain. By using magnetic resonance imaging while volunteers were asked to squeeze a ball every 11 seconds, scientists watched what happened inside their heads. The scans revealed that the striatum, a structure deep inside the brain, was working hard during this exercise.

Pocket N-bomb becomes a possibility

PHYSICISTS at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California have succeeded in compressing hydrogen gas into metal, which may have far-reaching effects in the future, including the possibility of developing an atomic bomb that could be carried in a pocket.

Livermore physicist William J. Nellis and his colleagues, Samuel T. Weir and Art C. Mitchell, achieved the feat, dreamed about since the 1930s, with a giant gas gun once used to study the physics of nuclear explosions.

The Livermore researchers fired a disk-shaped bullet at a container of liquefied hydrogen gas, squeezing it into metallic form for a fraction of a second.

Explosives made with hydrogen-metal would be far more powerful than any non-nuclear explosive now in existence.

Eventually, the achievement may have practical applications such as new types of explosives, new ways to transmit electricity without resistance, or methods to propel rockets. It also offers a way to simulate the interior of giant gas planets such as Jupiter and Saturn.

No practical uses of metal hydrogen are feasible until scientists learn how to stop the hydrogen in metallic form indefinitely. That is the next great challenge.

SPACE

IRS-P3 is put into orbit

THE third developmental flight of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-D3) was successfully launched from Sriharikota, placing a 930 kg Indian remote sensing satellite, IRS-P3, into a near-polar sun-synchronous orbit.

The four-stage, 44-metre tall vehicle with a weight of about 283 tonnes using both solid and liquid propellants, lifted off at 10.23 a.m. on March 21, 1996. About 17 minutes later, the satellite was placed in its "precise" orbit.

Coming as it did in the wake of the two recent major successes, INSAT-2C and IRS-1C, ISRO chairman K. Kasthurirangan said the effort, sincerity and dedication of the scientists had paid off.

Commercial Market: With the successful launch of the remote sensing satellite, India has now eight home-built satellites in orbit. The launch has also opened up the possibility to tap a lucrative international market for satellite launch and sale of remote sensing data.

ISRO, through its commercial wing Antrix, has already started to market the remote sensing data gathered by various Indian satellites.

With the validation of launch technology, ISRO hopes to offer commercial launch of up to 1,000 kg satellites in the 900-km orbit. The annual market for this segment is around \$ 100 million. ISRO hopes to launch a satellite for \$ 10-12 million against the current market rate of \$ 15-20 million charged by European and American companies.

ISRO will now launch the next generation rocket, the Geostationary Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV), in late 1998. The more powerful GSLV is needed to launch communication satellites of the INSAT series, weighing over 2,000 kg. The third stage of the four-stage PSLV will be replaced by a cryogenic engine which is being fabricated with Russian help.

Comet Hyakutake sighted

COMET Hyakutake hove into bright unaided view on March 26, 1996.

Hyakutake came closest to the earth

(15 million kms) and remained brightly visible for a few days as it hurtled in a trajectory around the sun.

Hyakutake will never quite get to the sun but after getting as close as 34 million kms it will hurtle into a wide orbit never to return for another 10,000 years.

Named after the Japanese amateur who spotted it with a pair of binoculars in January, Hyakutake is the third in a series appearing on the firmament in 10-year intervals, following comet West in 1976 and comet Halley in 1986.

The comet Hale-Bopp is expected in April next year.

Atlantis docks with Mir

SPACE shuttle Atlantis successfully docked with the Russian space station Mir, on March 24, 1996, the third docking of the shuttle programme. Shuttle commander Kevin Chilton linked the two spacecraft carefully edging the shuttle to the Mir at one foot per second. The shuttle did not deviate from its schedule as it approached Mir. It stopped, as planned, 170 feet below Mir for 10 minutes, then at 30 feet before making the final approach.

MISCELLANY

Cybermoney: Friend or Foe

IS Cybermoney a useful way of paying for goods on the Internet or a trojan horse harbouring forces that will distort money supply, debase currencies and set off inflation?

It's a debate already showing signs of pitting Europe's more conservative central bankers against computer trailblazers.

For the Dutch, pioneers in the electronic cash revolution, the prospect of paying cash over the Internet is no more frightening than using a credit card.

In fact, digital cash could be safer because breaking the codes destined to protect cybermoney would take years of work with very little return.

Cybermoney is real money, moved from real bank accounts onto the Internet, in a form protected by sophisticated codes, to parties who then deposit it with their own banks in exchange for goods or services offered on the Internet.

Not everyone believes it will work out that way. A German Bundesbank board member said central banks were concerned that cybermoney could be vulnerable to hackers and, if it caught on, could replace physical money, affecting money supplies.

Cost and security are key. Sending credit card numbers or account details through the Internet, without the protection of heavy encryption, is asking for trouble in an environment that is notoriously difficult to police.

Cyber D-day coming on December 31, 1999

MANY of the powerful computers running today could go haywire on December 31, 1999. Their clock will show 01/01/00 which will be interpreted by computers as January 1, 1900, instead of the year 2000. This could make it impossible to calculate interest, pensions, insurance policies or inventories. Analysts predict reprogramming will cost \$ 100 billion to \$ 600 billion for global industry and governments, over the next four years.

Many operations run by big computers must undergo months of complex reprogramming by 1998 or sooner to ensure the systems function correctly by 2000.

Persons born in 1934, for example, could be determined to be minus 34 years old by computers. That could then be converted to 34, since many computers will not recognise negative age values.

The problem dates back to the 1970s, when computer data was entered on punchcards. At the time, eliminating two digits was a major cost savings, and all dates were assumed to begin with 19.

This data was later transferred in the same format to more powerful mainframe computers. Programmers at the time mistakenly believed their systems would be replaced by the time the millennium rolled around. But, with the turn of the century, elevators, fax machines, heating systems, defence systems, billing cycles, anything that's date dependent, could be affected.

SPORTS

ATHLETICS

World Cross Country Championship

KENYA'S Paul Tergat won his second straight men's title at the 24th world cross country championship held at Stellenbosch in South Africa, after top challenger Ethiopia's Haile Gebrselassie stumbled in the event.

In the women's race, defending champion Derartu Tulu of Ethiopia lost a shoe allowing Cete Wami to win ahead of Kenyan Rose Cheruiyot. Tulu, the Olympic champion at 10,000 metres, finished fourth.

Kenya's David Chelule won the junior men's race and Kutre Dulecha of Ethiopia won the junior women's event.

Kenya won the team title in all four races for the second straight year.

BADMINTON

SAARC International Badminton Tournament

INDIA retained both men's and women's team title after defeating strong contenders Sri Lanka in the second SAARC International Badminton Tournament held at Vijayawada.

All England Championship

DOUBLES pair Ge Fei and Gu Jun of China beat Danish rivals 15-7, 15-3 at the All England championship doubles final held in Birmingham.

In the women's singles finals, China's world champion Ye Zhaoying, one of the top favourites to win the Atlanta Olympic title, was beaten 1-11, 1-11 by South Korea's Bang Soo-hyun.

Defending champions Poul-Erik Hoyer Larson of Denmark and Rexy Mainakey and Ricky Subadja of Indonesia retained their titles in the men's singles and doubles events

BOXING

World Heavyweight Championship

MIKE Tyson beat UK's Frank Bruno in the

third round of the World Boxing Council heavyweight championship held in Las Vegas.

CHESS

National Women's Championship

TWENTY-two year old Mrinalini Kunte of Pune emerged the new national women's champion defeating Anupama Gokhale in the 11th round of the XXII Women's National 'A' chess championship organised by the Golden Square Women's Association in Salem. Asian chess queen Bhagyashree Thipsay, who also won her final round, tied with Mrinalini with 7.5 points but was declared runner up on the tie-break.

CRICKET

Wills World Cup, 1996

See Page 869 for details

Ranji Trophy

KARNATAKA were crowned Ranji Champions after a gap of 13 years, defeating Tamil Nadu, which had earlier defeated Bombay and Delhi. The match was played in Madras and Karnataka's team was captained by Anil Kumble.

Manoj Prabhakar retires

ALL-rounder Manoj Prabhakar announced his retirement from international cricket saying he had no motivation left. Addressing a press conference in New Delhi, the Ranji Trophy skipper said he did not receive a second chance after his World Cup performance.

FOOTBALL

Santosh Trophy

TRIGGERED by the brilliance of Bhaichung Bhutia, Bengal beat Goa 2-0 in the 52nd Bharat Petroleum National Football Championship for the Santosh Tro-

phy, held at Margao. This was Bengal's 26th title triumph.

TENNIS

Evert Cup Women's Tennis Tournament

STEFFI Graf of Germany won her first 1996 tournament outlasting second seed Conchita Martinez of Spain at the Evert Cup Women's Tennis Tournament. Graf won the cup in her first competitive effort following a four-month break due to foot surgery. She trailed 5-2 in the second set tie breaker before recovering to take the match

VOLLEYBALL

Federation Cup

PUNJAB Police won the men's title for the second straight year in the 18th Federation Cup Volleyball Championship held at Kozhikode.

In the women's final, holders Indian Railways beat Kerala in the straight sets for their 15th title triumph. The 15-8, 15-12, 15-9 win helped them retain the Indira S. Pradhan Trophy. Punjab Police retained the Sivanthi rolling trophy.

WEIGHTLIFTING

National Weightlifting Championships

RAILWAYS asserted their supremacy and lifted the Burdwan Challenge Shield retaining the men's team championship with 411 points in the 48th National Weightlifting Championships held at Thrissur.

Police Sports Control Board (PSCB) with 386 points got the P. K. Sengupta Trophy for the women's team championship with 8 gold, 12 silver and 6 bronze medals. West Bengal finished third with 293 points. Last year's champions Karnataka finished fifth with 220 points.

Tamil Nadu with a tally of 122 points claimed the inter-State team title for the Kuppuswamy Naidu trophy while Andhra Pradesh were the runners up.

Question Box

Q. When you see the telecast of a cricket match played at night, you see the shadows of each player like a cross. Why are there four shadows and not one?

—Nidhi Thakkar, Hisar (Haryana)

A. In matches played at night, floodlights from different directions shine on the ground. This gives rise to four shadows, shaped like a cross, around each player.

Q. Which book should I refer for preparing for MAT?

—Manoj Omre, Kalyan (Maharashtra)

A. The official guide to MAT can be followed, which gives test papers. It is available at book shops and with All India Management Association.

Q. What are FCNR deposits?

—Sangata Chakraborty, Shyamnagar (WB)

A. Foreign Currency Non Resident (FCNR) deposits refer to money deposited by non residents in banks in the country.

Q. What are Quasars and pulsars?

—Pawan Parihar, Bhopal (MP)

A. Pulsar is short for 'pulsating radio star'. It is a rapidly rotating neutron star which emits a bright beam of radiation as it rotates, like a flashing lighthouse. Pulsars were discovered in 1967 and more than 600 are now known. Quasar is short for 'quasi stellar object'. It is a brilliant star-like object and appears to be receding from us at close to the speed of light. Quasars are thought to be the bright centres of galaxies containing massive black holes.

Q. What is TNT?

—Zahid Hussain Ansari, New Delhi

A. Trinitrotoluene (TNT) is a nitrogen compound used chiefly as an explosive. It is relatively insensitive to shock and cannot be exploded without a detonator. It is the most favoured chemical explosive for munitions and demolitions.

Q. Who invented the ball-point pen?

—Suresh Chandra Sahoo, Cuttack

A. Ball point pens date from the 19th century. Commercial models appeared in 1895, but the first satisfactory model was patented by Lazlo Biro, a Hungarian living in Argentina. His pen, called the "biro" became popular in the 1930s and 1940s.

Q. What is contact lens? Why is it used?

—Anupam Dey, Calcutta

A. A contact lens is a thin, artificial lens worn on surface of the eye to correct refractive defects. They are substitutes for eyeglasses and are thus preferred for cosmetic reasons.

Q. What is Bermuda Triangle?

—Saswati Pal, Durgapur (WB)

A. Bermuda Triangle is a section of the North Atlantic Ocean in which more than 50 ships and 20 airplanes are said to have mysteriously disappeared. No wreckage has been found and scientific searches have revealed nothing to substantiate the peril of the region.

Q. I have been told that the BBA is the same as the MBA. Is that true? What is the difference?

—Charu Mahajan, Shimla

A. The BBA is a bachelor's course and MBA is post-graduate. Obviously, the two are not the same. If you want a higher

start, MBA would be better.

Q. Does a man become black after drinking coffee for some years? Would he become fair if he took a milk bath for a few months?

—Joe Joseph, Rewa (M.P.)

A. Pigment of the skin depends on race and hereditary factors. It cannot change by drinking coffee or bathing in milk. Cosmetics will make a marginal change in the colour of skin but cannot change it entirely.

Q. I have done a textile designing course. How can I get a job?

—Nidhi Gupta, Roorkee Cantt

A. You can get a job as an instructor in a polytechnic, or look for an industrial unit which does textile designing. Alternately, you can start supplying your designs to shops and boutiques in your area and set up a profitable business. We suggest that you meet the shops and show your work to obtain orders. A number of people use their textile design skill in this way.

Q. What is the meaning of TFM printed on Soap wrappers? How much percentage is good?

—Devender Reddy, Nizamabad (AP)

A. Total Fatty Material (TFM) is the percentage of fatty material used in manufacture of soap. Using a particular soap depends on the type of skin you have. If you have a dry skin, a soap with high TFM could be used, and if the skin is oily then low TFM soap may be better.

Q. I would like to become a doctor but I am also good at fashion designing. Which career should I choose?

—Sarika Choudhary, Hazaribag (Bihar)

A. Your confusion is understandable but you should assess what you really want to do. Where do you see yourself? An honest introspection will help you decide your career. Alternately, you could pursue a career in medicine and keep your fashion designing as a profitable hobby.

Q. How is inflation decreasing these days but prices of commodities are not falling?

—*Iswar Ch. Acharya, Bhubaneswar*

A. The rate of inflation has decreased, which means that prices of goods are rising at a slower rate. It does not mean that prices are falling.

Q. What is Excise duty?

—*Somnath Chattopadhyay, Burnpur*

A. Excise duty is a duty levied on the production of a factory. It varies from product to product.

Q. What is the function of radar in an aeroplane?

—*Subrata Das, Tripura (South)*

A. A radar is an instrument that indicates on a screen, by means of radio echoes, solid objects that come within the range of ships, aircraft or spacecraft. They are thus useful in fog or darkness and give information about the position, movement and speed of the object. Ground radars keep track of air traffic.

Q. How can one conquer high ambition and pride?

—*Tusar Kranti Mishra, Bonaigarh (Orissa)*

A. The best way to conquer ambition and pride is to keep busy and not think about them. Vary your interests and get involved in sports and other activities. As you stop thinking about yourself and start looking at the outside world, you will be able to see yourself in perspective. There are several books on self-help available in case you cannot solve your problem.

Q. What is a 'Utopian concept'?

—*A Bhaskar Rao, New Delhi*

A. Utopia is an imaginary, perfect social and political system. A Utopian concept would be a concept which is perfect and appeals to all. Whether it is practical or achievable would be doubtful.

Q. I would like to become an officer in the army. What steps should I take?

—*Bharat Bhushan, Bhatinda (Punjab)*

A. You should prepare well and appear for the defence services or NDA exams, to become an officer in the army.

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General Studies Scene

Q. 1. Comment on the growth of Corruption in politics in India. Critically examine the proposal of State funding of elections as a measure to control this menace.

Ans. Of late, the country has been rocked by the so-called "Hawala Scam". The shameful incident has not only put a question mark on the credibility and honesty of most of the well entrenched politicians, but has also shaken the confidence of the common man in the present system. Corruption in politics has not been uncommon even in the developed countries. Famous Watergate scandal of the USA and successive financial scandals in Japan have resulted in toppling many a government in these countries. Corruption in politics is an accepted phenomenon in every developing economy and Indian has been no exception. During the recent years Bofors scandal, St Kitts controversy, securities scam, sugar muddle, Telecommunication mix-up, Harshad Mehta pay-offs and very recently the so-called "Hawala Scam" put together has forced the common man to ponder over the usefulness or otherwise of our system. "Hawala" issue, in particular, has been responsible for exposing the politicians in general, cutting across the party lines. It is very difficult to digest that the so-called "model" politicians from almost all the political parties fell easy prey to the lure of easy money and accepted bribe, or to be more dignified, election fund from the criminals running the parallel black-market of the foreign exchange. For argument's sake, if it is accepted that the money "accepted" was genuinely used to fund the party expenditure on elections, the credibility of most of the political parties come under serious cloud. The question is how could our leaders accept tainted money for funding elections? More than their act of accepting bribe from the criminals, one is disturbed over the ease and poise with which the unabashed political "leaders" have faced the cameras and the press without an iota of repentance over their shameful conduct. Aghast at the deterioration in the moral values in political life, one is forced to remember the selfless leaders and statesmen who sacrificed their careers and lives during the nationalist movement. Without a clean alternative, the common man may be forced to vote unwillingly to the lesser evil.

A proposal has been put forth that since most of the political corruption takes place in the name of election fund, the legislative changes should be effected to make provision for State funding of elections. In other words, it implied that the entire amount of election spending on all the elections would be done by the State. This would prevent the politicians from asking for doles in garb of election funds. This would also enable the Election Com-

mission to enforce the limit on expenditure during the elections. The proposal, which has again come from the politicians, does have some merit but more than any legislative change, it is the resolve and moral commitment of a person not to accept any bribe, which would ultimately result in cleaner politics in our country. The unscrupulous politicians under such a situation may not ask for election fund, but may straightway ask for political expenses or kick-backs. Election funding was used as a device to extract money easily, but when this mean would cease to exist, the corrupt politicians and the businessmen may stop mincing words about giving and accepting bribes. Hence, unless there is a complete overhaul of our moral values, political system and business dealings, it may be extremely difficult to uproot the blemish of corruption out of our political lives.

Q. 2. What are India's nuclear options? In view of the pressure to sign CTBT, do you think that India should be a signatory of this treaty?

Ans. India's stand on the nuclear non-proliferation has been consistent and it has time and again refused to sign the discriminatory Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), despite tremendous amount of pressure generated by the international community, particularly the USA. India's argument has been that unless there is a comprehensive ban on all the nations, including the five nuclear powers, India would not sign the Treaty. The NPT was aimed at restricting the non-nuclear countries from acquiring the nuclear capabilities while there was no restriction on the five nuclear powers. India is committed to the peaceful use of atomic power and even the explosion in 1974, which was carried out at Pokharan, was termed as peaceful nuclear explosion. But advances made in nuclear technology by several non-nuclear countries like Pakistan and Israel, through their patrons like China and the USA, causes a serious concern to India. Notwithstanding India's resolve to use the atomic power only for peaceful purposes, the recent developments in nuclear capabilities in the Indian sub-continent have forced India to revise its nuclear options. An additional option is to carry out a full-fledged nuclear explosion, displaying to the world its retaliatory nuclear capabilities, which would certainly act as a deterrent to any country that may think of using nuclear weapons against India. Yet another option before India is to carry out a series of nuclear explosions, perfect its technology and then express her willingness to sign a test ban treaty. The Prime Minister has recently declared that India will not close its nuclear options. It is also possible that India declines to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and continues

with its plans of developing nuclear capabilities.

Some experts feel that CTBT is specifically aimed at bringing India within the ambit of nuclear non-proliferation. Any treaty which professes discrimination cannot be acceptable to India. Since long, India had been advocating the cause of complete disarmament, which meant that all the nuclear weapons be destroyed and all powers, whether nuclear or non-nuclear, commit themselves against future development and use of nuclear weapons. India should sign the CTBT only if the following conditions are met:

(a) All the Nuclear Weapon States (NWSs) shall have to sign the CTBT. They further have to undertake a policy of "no-first use" in future.

(b) Political adversary countries of India will also have to sign the CTBT and the entire world has to be covered, otherwise the very purpose of CTBT would be defeated.

(c) Any State violating the Treaty, and the commitment of no-first use, should invite stringent political and economic sanctions from the world community.

(d) CTBT and no-first use commitment should be made basis for implementing the policy of complete global disarmament, only then the peaceful coexistence of the world community can be ensured.

India's commitment to ensure a nuclear-free world is not new and needs no explanation. Given a positive international outlook towards this aspect, India would certainly like to contribute fruitfully. The national interests, however, must be guarded and India should not get trapped by a situation of disadvantage. If the conditions mentioned above are met, Indian interests are safeguarded, only then it should go ahead and sign a CTBT with a spirit in which such Treaty was propagated by her for years.

Q. 3. What is Citizenship? What are the Constitutional and statutory basis of citizenship in India? Also comment on single-Citizenship provided in the Indian Constitution.

Ans. Citizen of a country is that part of population which excludes the aliens and enjoys full civil and political rights provided by the political system of that country. All these rights are not available to the foreigners. Even the Indian Constitution conferred certain rights and privileges upon those who could be called Indian citizens. The aliens have not only been denied these rights and privileges but are also subject to certain disabilities. Indian Constitution, as such, does not deal with the issue of Citizenship in great details. It merely mentions the classes of persons who were deemed to be the citizens of India on the date of commencement of the Constitution. Over and above this, the entire issue of citizenship was left to be regulated by a separate piece of legislation. On the basis of this broad provision in the Constitution, the Citizenship Act was enacted by the Parliament which was enforced with effect from 1955. This Act deals with the provisions regarding acquisition and loss of citizenship by the individuals. The following categories of

persons were regarded as citizens of India as on January 26, 1950:

- (a) Any person born or domiciled in the territory of India, irrespective of the nationality of his/her parents.
- (b) A person whose father or mother was born in India and had ordinarily been residing within the territory of India for not less than 5 years immediately prior to the commencement of the Constitution.
- (c) Persons migrated to India from Pakistan subject to a few conditions.
- (d) A person who migrated from India to Pakistan after March 1, 1947, but later returned to India with the intention of settling in India permanently.
- (e) A person, who himself or his parents or grand-parents were born in "India" as defined in the Government of India Act of 1935, but who is ordinarily residing in any country outside India could obtain the citizenship by applying to the diplomatic representative of India in that country.

In addition, the Citizenship Act, 1955 prescribes the following modes of acquisition of citizenship:

- (a) Everyone born in India on or after January 26, 1950.
- (b) Any person born outside India on or after the above mentioned date, provided that his/her father was a Citizen of India at the time of his/her birth.
- (c) Citizenship by registration before a prescribed authority can also be acquired.
- (d) A foreigner may also apply for citizenship by way of naturalisation.
- (e) If a new territory is incorporated in the Indian Union, the citizens of that territory specified by the Government of India, would also become the Citizens of India.

Although Indian Constitution provides for a federal system, it confers only single citizenship to its citizens, which is in contrast with the provisions of dual citizenship available in most of the federal systems. There are, however, certain benefits, indirectly provided through the Constitution to the residents of a particular State. Article 15 of the Constitution prohibits discrimination on grounds of race, religion, caste, sex or place of birth. The Supreme Court, in one of the decisions, has held that because discrimination on the grounds of residence is not prohibited by the Constitution, the States could confer special benefits to its residents on matters other than those specified in the Fundamental Rights of the Constitution. For example, there is no bar on the State Government to allow special concessions in the fees etc in the educational institutions for the permanent residents of that particular State. Special rights and privileges are also available to the Citizen residing in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. But, despite above concessions all the Citizens remain the Citizens of India, enjoying only single Citizenship.

Questions on Social and Economic Problems

Q. What are the causes of Inflation in India? Do you think that Inflation in India is excessive?

Ans. The Indian economy has been plagued by inflation for a long time now. The post 1947 period witnessed increasing prices and the mid 1980s saw this problem manifesting itself. In particular, 1985-91 was the period that gave a lot of cause for worry to the planners.

Inflation arises when too much money chases too few goods. It is very difficult to pinpoint any one particular factor. Broadly, the following can be considered:

(i) **Mounting Government Expenditure:** There has been a steady increase of government expenditure over the years. This rose from Rs 22056 crores in 1980-81 to Rs 151699 crores (according to the 1994-95 budgetary estimates). More disturbing is the fact that non-plan expenditure as a per cent of GDP rose from 9.6 (1980-81) to 14.4 (1990-91) and finally stood at 11.6 (1994-95). This is a very dangerous trend. Continuous increase in government expenditure puts more money in the hands of the people and encourages inflationary trends.

(ii) **Deficit financing and increase in money supply:** The Government of India is responsible for adopting deficit financing as a method of financing economic development. Till the first three plans, the extent of financing was quite modest (Rs 330 crores to Rs 1130 crores). However, the magnitude of deficit financing rose rapidly from the Fourth Plan onwards. During the Seventh Plan period, the figure was Rs 7000 crores. In the past four-five years, deficit financing has been exceeding Rs 10,000 crores annually. Mounting government expenditure, partly financed through deficits, directly pushes up the

money supply in the country. An important factor for any spectacular rise in prices is the expansion in money supply. Without monetary expansion, inflation cannot be sustained at all for any length of time.

(iii) **Black Money:** There is a large amount of unaccounted money in the hands of income-tax evaders and black marketeers. A major part of this money is used in the foodgrains trade, buying and selling of real estate in urban areas. Also, there is extensive hoarding and speculation in many essential and inflation-sensitive goods like sugar, edible oils etc. Black money is one of the important factors causing inflation.

(iv) **Population:** An uncontrolled growth of population leads to a gap between demand and supply in almost all consumer goods and services. The problem of prices can't be solved satisfactorily unless the growth of population is unchecked.

(v) **Fluctuations in output and supply:** Violent fluctuations in foodgrains output also causes a rise in foodgrain prices as well as general prices. A rise in prices is also caused by an inadequate supply of manufactured goods. The rate of production of manufactured goods is lowered because of power breakdowns, strikes and lockouts, and shortage of transport facilities. With a heavy demand for manufactured products, the producers are in a position to push up prices to any extent.

(vi) **Taxation (when it raises costs):** If the government imposes commodity taxes, traders get an opportunity to raise prices. More often than not, this is more than the levy of taxes.

(vii) **Other factors:** The Government very rarely comes up with an effective anti-

inflationary policy. It is also sometimes said that the government has generally followed a highly vacillating and anti-peasant policy in fixing procurement prices.

In the 1990s, the immediate cause for the pressure on prices was the increase in prices of administered items such as coal, petroleum products (other than diesel and kerosene), fertilisers, electricity etc, as also, excess demand, supply-demand imbalances, increase in procurement prices of cereals and consequent rise in issue prices. Exchange rate adjustments in July 1991 also led to increase in import costs which contributed to some cost pressure in import-intensive industries.

Those who keep in mind the Latin American and African experiences regarding inflation (double digit or even treble and quadruple digit inflation) feel that the Indian experience is one of low inflation. These people seem to think that India is one of those few developing countries which have experienced double digit inflation only on very few occasions in the post independence period. These few occasions have created a strong resistance to high inflation through the political process.

This kind of a theorising, however, is no consolation for the economy. The fact is that India cannot afford to go through such "few occasions", especially if we want to avert the kind of crises that the Latin American and African countries went through. With this attitude in mind, we can say that the inflation rate is indeed excessive and the Indian economy must take steps to check this.

Q. Do you think that the subsidisation of higher and professional education in

India is uncalled for? Suggest some measures for the financing of higher education in India.

Ans. In the recent times, there have been a number of discussions and arguments regarding the privatising or subsidisation of higher and professional education in India. Higher education is almost the sole source of social mobility and antidote to casteism and social backwardness. It has no substitute. Therefore, it is said that expenses should be kept low. In other words, subsidisation of higher and professional education is justified on the grounds of the basic need for such education. It has been said since many brilliant students cannot afford very high fees, the government should help them by lowering the amounts that they pay.

The other side of the story highlights the fact that this is not the legitimate function of the government. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has (since February 1995) been finalising guidelines for privatising higher education. These schemes are supposed to entail cutting State grants by freezing them at the 1992-93 level (plus 10 per cent) for four years and raising tuition fees by three or five-fold. These proposals would be thrust on institutions like the IITs and IIMs, who would create a corpus fund by raising money from private sources here and abroad. This is supposed to help in promoting institutions of higher learning. There would be formed a centralised, multifaculty university campus thus ensuring equal emphasis on all courses and not just the professional or vocational ones.

This kind of a scheme would help in reducing government expenditure. Both State governments and the UGC face a financial crunch and there is a need for augmenting resources with private ones. The State would then be able to divert funds to other aspects.

Such schemes are meant to promote close interaction between the industry and educational institutions. We need a focus on the actual needs of the industry.

This scheme has its own pitfalls too. There could be a danger of bossism of the

private sector. The government cannot just shift its burden on others. It is also naive to imagine that the private industry would be interested in encouraging all kinds of courses. It would be too much to expect that business houses would agree to fund philosophy, history, aesthetics, astrophysics and other such subjects.

Clearly, higher education financing is an issue that needs a more balanced approach. While the government must realise the importance of higher education in India, it also has to be careful that the private industries of the future are kept free from the 'rule of regulation' so that a clean set up is ensured.

Q. Examine the extent of poverty in India. What has been our strategy for poverty eradication?

Ans. Poverty has been defined as a social phenomena in which a section of society is unable to fulfil even its basic necessities of life. To determine the extent of poverty or make any other analysis, it is important to define a poverty line. A poverty line dividing the poor from the non-poor is used by putting a price on the minimum required consumption levels of food, clothing, shelter, fuel and health care etc.

While poverty in urban areas fell by 12 per cent during 1970-88 the poverty in rural areas fell only by 8 per cent. A recent report by the World Bank had pointed out that the total population under the poverty line declined from 43 per cent in 1970-75 to 25 per cent in 1988-93. Here, the upper poverty line was pegged at an Annual Income of Rs 1296 in 1985-93. The reasons for this decline have been many. A general growth in the economy has contributed towards poverty alleviation. There was also an increase in the agricultural productivity over the years. Third, there were a number of programmes implemented to attack poverty.

At different points of time, the government has sought to attack various aspects of the domestic economy. In the Fifth Plan, the direct targets were unemployment and under-employment. In the Sixth

Plan also, the planners again realised that both rural and urban poverty were identifiable with low productivity, low wages, intermittent employment, as well as chronic lack of work. This attitude continued during the Seventh Plan period also and the government thought of continuing with various multi-faceted attacks on poverty. Removal of unemployment, improvement in agricultural performance and the overall economic growth helped fight poverty.

Besides, there have been specific poverty eradication programmes. Such steps include redistribution of land acquired after the imposition of a ceiling of 10-12 acres among the small and marginal farmers; provision of security of tenure of sharecroppers and temporary tenants; providing employment; special programmes like IRDP, NREP, RLEGP; providing water to dry lands by extending minor irrigation; extension of opportunities of self-employment; encouraging production of items of mass consumption, especially wage goods, in small scale and cottage industries to enlarge the employment potential; to provide greater grants for schools in the backward areas and for backward classes so that inequality of opportunity can be reduced.

Most of the schemes get distorted during implementation. This needs to be checked. Only then can the strategy for poverty eradication work well.

Q. Do you agree with the view that the population problem is the main hurdle in our development? Give reasons for your answers.

Ans. The relation between rising population and development has always been of great interest to economists. This relationship is, in fact, a circular one. Increasing population hampers economic growth. Some very basic results of unprecedented population increase are related to the social infrastructure and essential needs of the people. Rapid population growth makes it difficult for governments to provide required levels of health, water and sanitation services and makes it diffi-

cult to attain good health outcomes. Education is also affected. The quality of education provided by the government remains poor, especially in rural India. While lower population growth would make it easy for the government to provide better education, education in turn would further help curb population growth.

Income inequality also rises with higher rates of population growth. High population density leads to large declines in real incomes of landless labourers which large landowners experience sharp increases in the rents paid to them.

Population growth also results in a greater demand for energy for household use. Since income levels are low, energy consumed is mainly non-conventional. Employment pressures lead to changing land use patterns such as diversion of fallow forest land to permanent clearing for cultivation, burning of forest land and grass land, creation of wet lands and increased carbon emissions in the air. Decrease in population pressures would equip the government with greater resources to tackle this problem.

Slow economic growth and poverty also cause rapid population growth. Poor quality of health services, poor nutrition, lack of immunization—these combine to result in low life expectancy and high infant mortality.

While it is difficult to categorically state that population is the main hurdle in our development, it is definitely one that requires a lot of attention. Population problem does not come alone. It brings with it various related problems that become deep-rooted in the economy.

Q. Discuss some of the achievements and failures of economic reforms in India.

Ans. For an appraisal of the reform process one needs to analyse some major areas of concern. The three primary ones are fiscal deficit, external imbalance and inflation. Besides these, Agriculture, Industry and Infrastructure are also important. Other areas are the public sector units,

the social sector and the financial sector.

Fiscal Deficit: The fiscal deficit, as a per cent of GDP, has been 8.3 in 1990-91, 5.9 in 1991-92, 5.7 in 1992-93, 7.4 in 1993-94 and finally 6.0 in 1994-95. The government has taken considerable steps to cut down subsidies, non-plan expenditure, disinvestment of government holdings in public undertakings. However, the failure in this particular area is that the cuts have been mainly in capital expenditures rather than extravagant administrative expenses. There is still plenty of scope for generating more resources by cutting down further on subsidies and improving the efficacy of public spending.

External Sector: The debt service payments as per cent of current receipts was 32.3 in 1990-91, declined to 29.8 in 1991-92, increased again to 30.3 in 1992-93 and then declined to 24.8 in 1993-94. The current account deficit also declined from Rs 3526 crores in 1992-93 and then to Rs 315 crores in 1993-94. Forex reserves have shown an impressive growth. From a situation where the country had just enough for one day, it became as high as \$ 18 billion. The reality, however, is that a majority has been attained by NRI deposits and incurring foreign debt. The former is not a reliable source in the long term and the latter leads to a debt trap.

Inflation: This has always remained a problem for the Indian economy. In spite of all jolts, this did come to a single digit. The inflation figure for 1994-95 (April-February) was 9.6. Although the government initiated a lot of steps but a lot remains to be done.

Agriculture, Industry and Infrastructure: Besides these three main areas of concern, Agriculture, Industry and Infrastructure are also supposed to play major roles in bringing the economy back in its full form. Trends in domestic investment have been encouraging which has been evident from sanctions and disbursements of term loans by All India Financial Institutions and capital market operations. In agriculture there has been an increase in foodgrain reserves as well as foodgrain production and the country's irrigation

potential. There are traces of fruits of modernisation being felt by farmers. It is also felt that WTO would also have an overall positive effect on Indian agriculture.

However, there have been major lacunas in the reform process in respect of agriculture. Over the years, investment in agriculture has declined. There is a need to increase investment in irrigation, rural communication, schemes for control of land and water degradation and other agriculture related infrastructure.

Industrial growth still remains below expectations although there are indications that the industry is coming out of the recessionary phase. By and large, the industrial sector is yet to respond fully to liberalization measures.

Public Sector Units: There has been considerable amount of disinvestment of the Public Sector Units (PSUs) in an attempt to march on the path to privatisation. However, the government policy on privatisation remains quite ill defined and ambiguous.

Financial Sector: Significant steps have been taken in the financial sector also. Two important reports—the Narasimhan Committee Report on Banking and the Malhotra Committee Report on Insurance Sector—have been formulated in recent years. Though a number of steps have been taken, a lot remains to be done. For the common man, going to the bank is still full of hassles. The entry of private banks has been a boon. Banks must be cleared of bad debts and their financial strength and profitability needs to be improved through better management, efficient services and prudent investment policies.

Social Sector: This sector is one that has attracted the maximum attention. There has been a marked change in programme thrusts and prioritisation within social sectors is evident in recent years. Full manifestation of the process are yet to show. Health and Nutrition remain neglected areas and Education, surprisingly, has never been allotted a budget that would reflect the government's concern. Poverty remains a major issue of concern.

VOCABULARY

Improve Your Word Power

1. **aeon:** (a) time (measureless) (b) tradition (ageless) (c) person (unreliable) (d) battle (royal).

2. **blabber:** (a) reserve judgement (b) behave cautiously (c) talk foolishly (d) walk fast.

3. **curmudgeon:** (a) jolly fellow (b) bad-tempered person (c) selfish person (d) chair-person.

4. **double entendre:** (a) double-meaning (b) double-dealing (c) double-standard (d) double-bluff.

5. **en masse:** (a) with one voice (b) collective decision (c) sudden departure (d) all together.

6. **fracas:** (a) disturbance (b) settlement (c) fancy (d) freedom.

7. **grouchy:** (a) original (b) artificial (c) ill-tempered (d) experienced.

8. **hunky-dory:** (a) excellent (b) duplicate (c) dull (d) factual.

9. **incriminate:** (a) assure (b) blame (c) forgive (d) forget.

10. **kybosh (kibosh):** (a) encouragement (b) inspiration (c) slogan (d) stop.

11. **lacerate:** (a) operate (b) hurt (feelings) (c) complain (d) eat (too much).

12. **machination:** (a) slave (b) failure (c) plot (d) success.

13. **nitty-gritty:** (a) facts (b) quotations (c) follies (d) roads.

14. **outclass:** (a) surpass (b) harass (c) confuse (d) manage.

15. **prickly:** (a) pleasant (b) delicate (c) touchy (d) obstinate.

16. **replenish:** (a) supply (b) fill (c) anticipate (d) aspire.

17. **sloth:** (a) scenery (b) description (c) depression (d) idleness.

18. **tearaway:** (a) moderate (b) tolerant (c) unimpressive (d) irresponsible.

19. **under-dog:** (a) traitor (b) patriot (c) weak person (d) clever person.

20. **votary:** (a) worker (b) follower (c) official (d) weaver.

ANSWERS

1. **aeon:** (a) time (measureless, immemorial).

—There are no two opinions about the fact that the earth was formed *aeons* ago.

2. **blabber:** (c) talk foolishly or talk too much.

—The habit of *blabbering* on or about every subject makes a person a social irritant.

3. **curmudgeon:** (b) bad-tempered (person)

—Since the new manager is a *curmudgeon*, his subordinates try to avoid him.

4. **double entendre:** (a) double-meaning.

—In the present day film lyrics, circumspection (caution) takes the form of *double entendre*.

5. **en masse:** (d) all together.

—Individually the children are delightful; *en masse* they can be unbearable.

6. **fracas:** (a) disturbance, noisy quarrel.

—The police were called in to break up (stop) the *fracas*.

7. **grouchy:** (c) ill-tempered, sulky.

—When I entered the room, I found my father in a *grouchy* mood.

8. **hunky-dory:** (a) excellent.

—As far as the organisation of the Book Fair is concerned, everything was *hunky-dory*, to say the least.

9. **incriminate:** (b) blame, implicate.

—She refused to make a statement to the police in case she *incriminated* herself.

10. **kybosh (kibosh):** (d) stop, halt, brake.

—When he broke his leg it put the *kybosh* on his holiday.

11. **lacerate:** (b) hurt (feelings).

—As far as possible we should avoid the use of such words or gestures as would *lacerate* the feelings of our friends.

12. **machination:** (c) plot, scheme (evil).

—Constant vigilance is the need of the hour if we really mean to counter the *machinations* of trouble-shooters across the borders.

13. **nitty-gritty:** (a) facts, realities.

—It was left to the working sessions of the conference to tackle the *nitty-gritty* of specific cultural changes of our time.

14. **outclass:** (a) surpass.

—In design and quality of manufacture, Indian goods are likely to be *outclassed* by their foreign counterparts.

15. **prickly:** (c) touchy, irritable.

—India has always been *prickly* about how it is portrayed in international media.

16. **replenish:** (b) fill again, renew.

—In order to face any eventuality, government is trying its best to *replenish* its warehouses with food-grains and edible oils.

17. **sloth:** (d) idleness, laziness.

—Hot weather coupled with food to the fill leads one to a state of *sloth* and sleepiness.

18. **tearaway:** (d) irresponsible, impetuous.

—It is beyond my understanding how she is able to put up with her *tearaway* son.

19. **under-dog:** (c) weak person, poor person.

—Unless our plans and programmes reach out to the *under-dogs*, we cannot hope to achieve the goal of social equality.

20. **votary:** (b) follower, enthusiast.

—India has always been a valiant *votary* of peace, both at home and abroad.

Descriptive Questions

Scanty rainfall and its Consequences

Q. If India receives only 50% rainfall in the next three consecutive years, what will happen? Give three possible consequences.

Ans. If today India is sitting pretty and comfortable on the food front, the credit goes to the efforts of Indian farmers as also to the nearly normal rainfall during the past eight years or so. The warehouses are full and the markets are behaving wisely not because of any official pressure but as a result of good and timely rains that have enabled the planners and policy makers to think of establishing agro-based industries and thus give a new look and thrust to Indian agriculture. Since a majority of our population still depends upon agriculture and the latter owes much of its achievements to the benevolence of rain gods, any erratic behaviour of rains in the coming three years can upset the apple-cart and create problems of multi-dimensional proportions for one and all. God forbid, if the total rainfall in a year falls by 50% in the (coming) three consecutive years, the consequences can be anything but pleasant.

Since the Indian agriculture, directly as well as indirectly, very much depends upon rains, their failure or inadequacy would bring about drought-like conditions in different parts of the country. Such States as contribute much to the Central pool of grains of different types, might fail to procure food-grains to the desired and required level. An atmosphere of panic and scarcity would come to prevail and the prices may escalate beyond the reach of ordinary citizens. The "public distribution system" may come to a halt or face reduced supply of food-grains and other items of daily use, which eventuality too would hit hard the poorer and weaker

sections of the society.

The already contentious issue of sharing river waters by the riparian States would be further aggravated. The apprehension that the relations between such States would be further strained and embittered is not without any basis. Of late, we have seen how the sharing of 'river waters' between States became the hotbeds of political gimmicks and 'a bone of contention'.

Demand for more electricity to run tube-wells would make a quantum jump and the country, already facing a huge deficit on the power front, would have to starve its industries to feed its fields. The prospects of living with the grim reality that India would receive only 50% of rainfall in the coming three years are too serious and severe to brook any complacency on the part of people as well as the 'powers that be'. The hard earned foreign exchange will have to be spent to import food-grains to keep replenishing the fast depleting warehouses.

Combating Terrorism in India

Q. Suggest three effective measures to combat terrorist activities in India. Explain how the measures being suggested by you will be effective.

Ans. For more than a decade now India has lived, fought and suffered on account of terrorism and if today, there are some perceptible signs of improvement, the need to be more vigilant and vigorous towards this deadly enemy is the crying call of the hour. The ugly face of terrorism in Punjab, J & K and North East India was and continues to be heinous and calls for both preventive as well as positive measures to combat the evil at different levels.

An in-depth study and scrutiny of

such causes as lead to alienation and self-destructive drift among the youth should be made and priorities fixed to win back those who have been lured or forced to join the ranks of hard-core terrorists. In most cases the basic cause of terrorism lies in the social, religious, political, economic and administrative structure of society. Appropriate but effective measures and constructive changes in these areas can go a long way in retrieving the lost ground and thus infusing a new confidence among the mis-guided youth.

Preventive measures like fencing the borders to check infiltration of foreign trained terrorists and an inflow of arms and other deadly material, can prove quite effective and result-oriented. Since much work has been done in this direction, help and cooperation of friendly countries should be sought so that terrorists do not find safe haven and passage there to sneak into India to carry out their terrorist activities. The assistance of Interpol can be of immense value in this matter. At home intelligence agencies of the worst affected and vulnerable States should be strengthened with the supply of most modern and hi-tech gadgets. An effective intelligence network can provide enough capability to prevent terrorists from striking their targets.

There should be an earnest effort on the part of Central, as well as State governments to introduce some positive programmes that can transfer the frustrations and grievances of terrorists into some positive work. Under no circumstances the security forces should harass and humiliate the common people. Violation of human rights, custodial deaths and fake encounters are definitely counter-productive measures and they can put spokes in the wheel to combat terrorism.

Space research versus rural development

Q. Some people feel that India should not pursue its activities in space research. Instead the money spent on it should be diverted to develop rural India. Give two arguments in favour and two arguments against the proposition.

Arguments in favour of the proposition

1. If some people genuinely and sincerely feel that India should not spend its scarce resources in the field of space research, their objection should not be construed as a publicity stunt or an anti-national activity. The advocates of the policy that India, like the other developed countries, should not lag behind in exploring the space may be doing so out of either ignorance of the ground realities or out of an intense intention to be in the club of 'Space Research Countries'. In fact both their ignorance as well as their intentions are misplaced because what we need in India are not a few kudos or concrete steps forward in the area of space research but an immediate, urgent and ubiquitous concern and consideration for the basic problems. Despite the fact that we have been a free country for nearly five decades now, the pounding problems of poverty, illiteracy, exploitation of the weak and the down-trodden in the country-side, coupled with a host of other flaws and tallacies, are no fantasies or phantoms but mocking moles on the body politic called rural India.

2. No doubt, by launching a few satellites into the space and making some momentous movements in the field of space technology, both independently as well as in collaboration with others, we may have added a few feathers to our national cap. But when we look towards the alarming numbers of those below the poverty line, the high number of illiterates, deplorable conditions of health and hygiene, millions of children engaged in earning their livelihood and the like, our heads hang in shame. In the presence of these 'dark areas' in our national pride and prestige, spending millions of rupees on space research is certainly a sin.

Arguments against the proposition

1. Those who charge that India is pursuing its activities in space research out of pleasure or prestige, are themselves victims of ignorance. No investment in science and technology, and especially in a developing country like India, is being done for the fun of it. All the information and data collected from the satellites is, in essence, timely inputs on the road to development and self-reliance. The Indian agriculture, that had been a captive of the vagaries of weather, and the fishermen in the coastal areas, who had suffered because of cyclones without any prior warning, need not feel helpless and hapless now. The satellites in space would gather information about weather conditions much in advance and this information, when properly and timely dispersed among the concerned people, would save them from the impending calamity and colossal losses.

2. Those advocating the argument of diverting funds being spent on space research activities to the rural sector seem to be half-witted and half-serious. There is no denying the fact that rural India, and its manifold problems, need massive investment men, money and material to bring about any tangible and telling improvement there. But we cannot achieve this goal by closing down the space research programme and thus turn the clock back or move against the current of present-day realities. Needless to say that besides their unique role and utility in the telecom and visual media sectors, satellites can bring quality education to students who stand disadvantaged geographically and economically. Let us not belittle and berate the significance of space research activities in our national life—both urban as well as rural.

Human rights in India

Q. India's performance in protecting human rights has generally been satisfactory. Give your views on the above proposition from your own knowledge, experience and reading.

Ans. Respect for human rights and

their observance in letter and spirit of the Constitution, indicates the sound health of a society and the fruitful functioning of a responsive and responsible government. Human rights as a sacred barometer of the collective social conscience is the *quid pro quo* of all civilised societies and no excuse or alibi is strong enough to violate them. When so much is being written and talked about the observance or violation of human rights in different parts of the world, India's performance in protecting human rights seems to have been quite satisfactory. There have been occasions when people have suffered at the hands of security forces during the worst days of terrorism but such aberrations are an exception in every polity. When certain forces inimical to the national interests are determined to tear apart the national fabric of unity, sovereignty and secularism, some excesses or curbs on human rights are bound to occur. In this respect, if the vigilant media and an independent judiciary, comments adversely on the functioning of police department or an over-zealous executive. One should not jump to the conclusion that India has become a hunting ground for the poor and the innocent to be chased and charged. Though India may not be an ideal State as far as its performance in safe-guarding human rights is concerned, it is equally not as culpable as some other countries may be.

The establishment of National Human Rights Commission and similar other Commissions for the protection of the basic rights of women, minorities, scheduled castes and tribes, etc. is a telling testimony to the fact that both the ruling elite as well as the society at large is fully alive to safe-guarding and respecting the rights of all. There is no gainsaying the fact that custodial deaths, detention without trial, dowry deaths, neglect of children and other weaker segments and even their inhuman exploitation do take place in our polity, but to such gross violations of human rights, the powerful media and an active and enlightened judiciary have always intervened and tried to set the things right.

Quantitative Aptitude

1. By selling 150 mangoes, a fruit-seller gains the selling price of 30 mangoes. His gain is:

- (a) 25% (b) 24% (c) 27% (d) 16%

2. In an examination, a candidate needs 40% marks to pass. A candidate who gets 210 marks fails by 40 marks. The maximum no. of marks is:

- (a) 525 (b) 625 (c) 650 (d) 575

3. The value of $(256)^{16} \times (256)^{09}$ is:

- (a) 64 (b) 4 (c) 8 (d) 16

4. The sum of a two-digit no. and the no. formed by reversing the digits is a perfect square. The total number of such nos. is:

- (a) 8 (b) zero (c) 1
(d) infinitely many

5. The division of a number by non-zero number is closed in the set of:

- (a) Natural nos. (b) Whole nos.
(c) Integers (d) Rational nos.

6. If $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{b}{c} = \frac{c}{d} = \frac{1}{3}$ then $\frac{a}{d}$ is equal to:

- (a) $\frac{1}{9}$ (b) $\frac{1}{3}$ (c) $\frac{1}{27}$

(d) None of these

7. A hound chases a stag running 200 m ahead. If the speed of the stag is 15 km/hr and that of hound is 17 km/hr, how much time will hound take to catch the stag?

- (a) 4 minutes (b) 6 minutes
(c) 3.5 minutes (d) 5 minutes

8. A man rows against the flow of the stream at the rate of 2 km/hr and along its flow at the rate of 1 km in $7\frac{1}{2}$ minutes. How long will it take him to row 10 km in still water?

- (a) 2 hours (b) $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours

(c) $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours (d) None of these

9. A man spent 60% of his salary and deposited 15% in the bank. If he is left with Rs 750, what is monthly salary (in Rs)?

- (a) 2000 (b) 4000 (c) 3000 (d) 5000

10. Two motor cars A and B cover the same distance in 30 minutes and 40 minutes respectively. If A's speed is 48 km/hr, B's speed is:

- (a) 44 km/hr (b) 35 km/hr
(c) 36 km/hr (d) 30 km/hr

11. A wooden cylinder 12 cm long and 7 cm in radius is divided into 2 equal parts by a plane cut passing

through its axes. The surface area of rectangular face formed of one of the pieces is:

- (a) 168 sq cm (b) 246 sq cm
(c) 84 sq cm (d) None of these

12. How many match boxes of the size 4 cm \times 3 cm \times 2 cm are contained in a box of size 12 cm \times 6 cm \times 4 cm?

- (a) 16 (b) 14 (c) 13 (d) 12

13. Which must be added to $\frac{1}{x}$ to make it $\frac{1}{y}$?

- (a) $\frac{x-1}{x+1}$ (b) $\frac{x^2-1}{x}$
(c) $\frac{x}{x^2-1}$ (d) $\frac{x+1}{x-1}$

14. If $a^x = b$, $b^y = c$, $c^z = a$ then $xyz = ?$

- (a) 0 (b) 1 (c) $a+b+c$ (d) -1

15. If $10 < x^2 < 20$ and x is a whole no. then $x = ?$

- (a) ± 2 (b) ± 5 (c) ± 3 (d) ± 4

16. If x be a rational no., the equation $|x| - x = 1$ has the sol. set.

- (a) $\{-2\}$ (b) $\{-3\}$ (c) $\{-\frac{1}{3}\}$ (d) $\{-\frac{1}{2}\}$

17. The sum of two numbers is 10, their product is 20. The sum of their reciprocals is:

- (a) $\frac{1}{20}$ (b) $\frac{1}{2}$ (c) $\frac{1}{30}$ (d) 2

18. A reduction of 20% in the price of mangoes enables a man to buy 25 mangoes more for Rs 40. Find the reduced price of 200 mangoes.

- (a) Rs 50 (b) Rs 48 (c) Rs 64 (d) Rs 36

19. If the numerator of a fraction be increased by 15% and denominator be diminished by 8% the fraction becomes $\frac{15}{16}$. Find the original fraction.

- (a) $\frac{4}{5}$ (b) $\frac{5}{4}$ (c) $\frac{3}{4}$ (d) $\frac{7}{8}$

20. In what time will the S.I. on Rs 900 at 6% be equal to S.I. on Rs 540 for 8 years at 5%?

- (a) 4 yrs (b) 5 yrs (c) $3\frac{1}{2}$ yrs
(d) None of these

21. If a bank pays 15% dividend, what rate of interest would a man get by purchasing Rs 10 shares for Rs 12?

- (a) 12.5% (b) 15% (c) 10.5% (d) 13%

22. A and B undertook a piece of work for Rs 200. A can do it in 6 days and B in 8 days. With C's help, they finished it in 3 days. How much is paid to C?

- (a) Rs 20 (b) Rs 40 (c) Rs 25 (d) Rs 60

23. A cistern has a leak which would empty it in 8 hrs. A tap is turned on which admits 10 litres a minute into the cistern. It is now emptied in 16 hrs. How many litres does the cistern hold?

- (a) 8000 litre (b) 9200 litre
(c) 7500 litre (d) 9600 litre

24. What sum of money must be invested in 5% stock at 102 to obtain an annual income of Rs 300?

- (a) Rs 5280 (b) Rs 6120
(c) Rs 7426 (d) None of these

25. How many metres of cloth 3 m wide will be required to make a conical tent whose radius is 12 m and height is 16 m?

- (a) 300 m (b) 251.42 m
(c) 228 m (d) None of these

26. A potter has a sphere of clay of 2 cm radius wants to make 4 equal smaller spheres of the same total surface area as that of the bigger one. What should be the radius of the smaller sphere?

- (a) 1 cm (b) 1.5 cm (c) 2 cm
(d) None of these

27. A cone, a hemisphere and a cylinder stand on equal bases and have the same height, height being equal to the radius of circular base. Find the ratio of their whole surfaces.

- (a) $(\sqrt{2} + 1) : 3 : 4$ (b) $\sqrt{2} : 3 : 1$
(c) $3 : 4 : (\sqrt{2} + 1)$ (d) None of these

28. The minute hand of a clock is 10 cm long. Find the area on the face of the clock described by the minute hand between 9 and 9.35 a.m.

- (a) 183.33 cm^2 (b) 139.85 cm^2
(c) 171.24 cm^2 (d) None of these

29. Find a number one-sixth of which exceeds its one ninth by 100.

- (a) 2000 (b) 1700 (c) 1440 (d) 1800

30. In an election where $\frac{1}{5}$ th of the constituency did not vote, two candidates contested. One of the candidates who received $\frac{2}{3}$ rd of the number of actual votes was declared successful by a majority of 120 votes. Find the total number of votes in the constituency.

- (a) 350 (b) 470 (c) 190 (d) 270

31. Divide Rs 4747 among A, B, C, D so that B's share is $\frac{2}{3}$ of A's, C's share is $\frac{3}{5}$ of B's and D gets as much as B and C together. D's share is:

- (a) Rs 1500 (b) Rs 1476
(c) Rs 1616 (d) Rs 1292

32. Divide Rs 800 into two parts so that simple interest on first part for $2\frac{1}{2}$ years at 4% be double the interest on second part for 5 years at 3%. Find the first part.

- (a) Rs 500 (b) Rs 300 (c) Rs 600 (d) Rs 650

33. A offers a horse in cash Rs 200 and B offers Rs 255 to be paid after 6 months. Which is better offer, money being reckoned at 4% and by how much?

- (a) second offer by Rs 20 (b) first offer by Rs 30
(c) both are same
(d) second offer is better by Rs 50

34. 0.117% can be expressed as:

- (a) 11.7 (b) 0.117
(c) 0.0117 (d) 0.00117

35. How many times must I run around a square field of area 1 hectare to run 6 km?

- (a) 15 (b) 13 (c) 12 (d) 17

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (a) Let S.P. of 1 mango be Re 1

$$\therefore \text{S.P. of 150 mangoes} = \text{Rs } 150$$

$$\text{Gain} = \text{Rs } 30 \therefore \text{C.P.} = 150 - 30 = \text{Rs } 120$$

$$\text{Gain}\% = \frac{30}{120} \times 100 = 25$$

2. (b) 40% of $x = 210 + 40 = 250 \therefore x = 625$

3. (b)

4. (a) Let the digit at units' place be x and at ten place = y

$$\therefore 10y + x + 10x + y \text{ is a perfect square}$$

$$\text{i.e. } 11(x + y) \text{ is a perfect square} \therefore x + y = 11$$

The possible pairs of x and y are (2, 9), (9, 2), (3, 8), (8, 3), (4, 7), (7, 4), (5, 6), (6, 5) i.e. 8

$$\therefore \text{Total no. of such nos.} = 8 \text{ (i.e. } 29, 92, 38, 83, 47, 74, 65, 56)$$

5. (d)

$$6. (c) \frac{a}{d} = \frac{a}{b} \times \frac{b}{c} \times \frac{c}{d} = \frac{1}{3} \times \frac{1}{3} \times \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{27}$$

7. (b) Difference in speeds of hound and stag

$$= 17 - 15 = 2 \text{ km/hr}$$

$$\text{Distance between them} = 200 \text{ m } 2 \text{ km} = 2000 \text{ m}$$

$$\text{Reqd. time} = 200 \times \frac{60}{2000} = 6 \text{ minutes}$$

8. (a) Let speed in still water be x km/hr and that of stream be y km/hr

$$\therefore x + y = 1 \times \frac{2}{15} \times 60 = 8, x - y = 2$$

$$\therefore 2x = 10 \text{ or } x = 5 \text{ km/hr}$$

$$\text{Reqd. time} = \frac{10}{5} = 2 \text{ hrs}$$

9. (c) Saving = $100 - (60 + 15) = 25\%$

$$\therefore 25\% \text{ of salary} = \text{Rs } 750$$

$$\therefore \text{Salary} = 750 \times \frac{100}{25} = \text{Rs } 3000$$

10. (c) Distance covered by car A in 30 minutes

$$= 48 \times \frac{30}{60} = 24$$

$$\therefore B's \text{ speed} = \frac{24}{\frac{40}{60}} = 36 \text{ km/hr}$$

11. (a) Area of rectangle = $12 \times (2 \times 7) = 168 \text{ sq cm}$

12. (d) No. of match boxes = $\frac{12 \times 6 \times 4}{4 \times 3 \times 2} = 12$

13. (b)

14. (b) $c^x = a \Rightarrow (b^y)^x = a \Rightarrow b^{yx} = a \Rightarrow (a^x)^{yz} = a$
 $= a \Rightarrow a^{xyz} = a \Rightarrow xyz = 1$

15. (d) 16. (d)

17. (b) $x+y = 10, xy = 20$

$$\frac{x+y}{xy} = \frac{10}{20} \text{ i.e. } \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{2}$$

18. (c) Reduced price of 25 mangoes = $\frac{20}{100} \times 40 = \text{Rs } 8$

$$\therefore \text{Reduced price of 200 mangoes} = \frac{8}{25} \times 200 = \text{Rs } 64$$

19. (c) $\frac{115\% \text{ of } x}{92\% \text{ of } y} = \frac{15}{16} \therefore \frac{x}{y} = \frac{3}{4}$

20. (a) $\frac{900 \times 6 \times t}{100} = \frac{540 \times 8 \times 5}{100} \therefore t = 4$

21. (a) Money earned on Rs 10 at 15% = Rs 1.50
Investment = Rs 12
 $I = \text{Rs } 1.50 \quad t = 1 \text{ year}$
 $\text{Rate}\% = \frac{1.50 \times 100}{12 \times 1} = 12.5$

22. (c) A's 3 day's work = $3 \times \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{2} \therefore A \text{ gets} = \frac{200}{2} = 100$
B's 3 day's work = $3 \times \frac{1}{8} = \frac{3}{8}$
 $\therefore B \text{ gets} = \frac{3}{8} \times 200 = 75$
 $\therefore C \text{ gets} = 200 - (100 + 75) = \text{Rs } 25$

23. (d) Work done by a filling pipe in 1 hr = $\frac{1}{8} - \frac{1}{16} = \frac{1}{16}$
 \therefore The cistern is full by filling pipe in 16 hrs
Capacity of the cistern = $16 \times 60 \times 10 = 9600 \text{ l}$

24. (b) Investment = $\frac{\text{Income} \times M.V.}{\text{Rate}} = \frac{300 \times 102}{5}$
= Rs 6120

25. (b) $l = \sqrt{h^2 + r^2} = \sqrt{16^2 + 12^2} = 20 \text{ m}$
No. of metres of cloth reqd. = $\frac{\text{Area}}{\text{Width}} = \frac{\pi r l}{3}$
 $= \frac{22}{7} \times 12 \times 20 = 251.42 \text{ m}$

26. (a) A.T.S.

S.A. of original sphere = S.A. of 4 smaller spheres
 $4 \pi (2)^2 = 4 (4 \pi R^2) \therefore R = 1 \text{ cm}$

Radius of a smaller sphere = 1 cm

27. (a) S.A. of cone hemisphere cylinder
 $\pi r^2 + \pi r l$: $3 \pi r^2$: $2 \pi r h + 2 \pi r^2$
 $\pi r^2 + \pi r \sqrt{h^2 + r^2}$: $3 \pi r^2$: $2 \pi r r + 2 \pi r^2$
 $\pi r^2 + \pi r \sqrt{2r^2}$: $3 \pi r^2$: $4 \pi r^2$ ($\because h = r$)
 $1 + \sqrt{2}$: 3 : 4

28. (a) Angle swept by minute hand in 35 minutes
 $= \frac{360}{60} \times 35 = 210^\circ$

$$\therefore \text{Reqd. area} = \frac{210}{360} \times \frac{22}{7} \times 10 \times 10 = 183.33 \text{ cm}^2$$

29. (d) $\frac{x}{6} - \frac{x}{9} = 100 \therefore x = 1800$

30. (d) Let actual votes be x

Voters who gave their votes = $x - \frac{x}{9} = \frac{8}{9}x$

No. of votes received by other candidate

$$= \frac{8}{9}x - \frac{2}{3}x = \frac{2}{9}x$$

Excess votes received by successful candidate

$$= \frac{2}{3}x - \frac{2}{9}x = \frac{4x}{9} = 120 \therefore x = 270$$

31. (c) Let A's share = Re 1, B's share = Re $\frac{2}{3}$

C's share = $\frac{3}{5} \times \frac{2}{3} = \frac{2}{5}$, D's share = $\frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{5} = \frac{16}{15}$

Ratio of shares of A, B, C, D = $1 : \frac{2}{3} : \frac{2}{5} : \frac{16}{15}$
 $= 15 : 10 : 6 : 16$

Sum of ratios = $15 + 10 + 6 + 16 = 47$

D's share = $\frac{16}{47} \times 4747 = 1616$

32. (c) Let the first part be Rs x

$$x \times \frac{4}{100} \times \frac{5}{2} = 2 \times (800 - x) \times \frac{3}{100} \times 5$$

$$\therefore x = \text{Rs } 600$$

33. (d) Present worth of Rs 255 = $\frac{255 \times 100}{100 + 4 \times \frac{1}{2}} = \text{Rs } 250$

First offer = Rs 200. Second offer = Rs 250

\therefore The second offer is better by Rs 50

34. (d)

35. (a) Area of square field = 1 hectare = 10000 sq. m.

\therefore Side of a square = $\sqrt{10000} = 100 \text{ m}$

Perimeter = Distance covered in one round

$$= 4 \times 100 = 400 \text{ m}$$

$$\therefore \text{Reqd. no. of times} = \frac{6 \times 1000}{400} = 15$$

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Indian Engineering Services Exam, 20th August, 1995

USAGE

Spotting Errors (Items 1 to 10)

Directions:

(i) In this Section a number of sentences are given. The sentences are in three separate parts and each one is marked *a*, *b*, *c*. Read each sentence to find out whether there is an error in any part. No sentence has more than one error. When you find an error in any one of the parts (*a*, *b* or *c*), indicate your response on the separate Answer Sheet at the appropriate space. You may feel that there is no error in a sentence. In that case letter '*d*' will signify a 'No error' response.

(ii) You are to indicate only one response for each item in your Answer Sheet. (If you indicate more than one response, your answer will be considered wrong.) Errors may be in grammar, word usage or idioms. There may be a word missing or there may be a word which should be removed.

(iii) You are *not* required to correct the error. You are required *only* to indicate your response on the Answer Sheet. Examples P and Q have been solved for you.

P. The young child(*a*) singed(*b*) a very sweet song.(*c*) No error.(*d*)

Q. We worked(*a*) very hard(*b*) throughout the season.(*c*) No error.(*d*)

Explanation:

In item P, the word 'singed' is wrong. The letter under this part is '*b*'; so '*b*' is the correct answer. Similarly, for item Q, '*d*' is the correct answer, as the sentence does not contain any error.

Now attempt items 1 to 10.

1. Neither of these trees(*a*) have(*b*) green leaves(*c*). No error(*d*).

2. Among the daughters of Ram(*a*) Kamala is inferior than Sita(*b*) in intelligence(*c*). No error(*d*).

3. During the depression(*a*) half the machines in the factory(*b*) were lazy(*c*). No error(*d*).

4. I am sorry I wasn't at home when you came;(a) I had gone to congratulate Mr Suresh(*b*) for his success in the election(*c*). No error(*d*).

5. I am quite certain that he(*a*) can be able(*b*) to do the job(*c*). No error(*d*).

6. The country is trying(*a*) to achieve self-sufficiency on the food-front(*b*) for the past four decades(*c*). No error(*d*).

7. Can you tell us(*a*) what do you read(*b*) in your spare time(*c*)? No error(*d*).

8. If you go to Kerala(*a*) you can see plenty of(*b*) beautiful sceneries(*c*). No error(*d*).

9. His wife(*a*) who is in Madras for a long time(*b*) will be here next week(*c*). No error(*d*).

10. Once the entire cavalry was decimated, the king(*a*) had no other choice(*b*) but to accept defeat(*c*). No error(*d*).

Sentence Improvement

(Items 11 to 20)

Directions:

Look at the underlined part of each sentence. Below each sentence are given three possible substitutions for the underlined part. If one of them (*a*), (*b*) or (*c*) is better than the underlined part, indicate your response on the Answer Sheet against the corresponding letter (*a*), (*b*) or (*c*). If none of the substitutions improve the sentence, indicate (*d*) as your response on the Answer Sheet. Thus a 'No improvement' response will be signified by the letter (*d*). Examples R and S have been solved for you.

R. The young child sung a very sweet song.

- (a) singed the (b) singed
- (c) sang a
- (d) No improvement

S. I have already read this book twice.

- (a) I already twice have read this book.
- (b) I twice have already read this book.
- (c) I have twice already read this book.
- (d) No improvement.

Explanation:

R. For item R, the correct sentence should read, "The young child *sang* a very sweet song". '*c*' is therefore, the correct answer.

S. Item S is a correct sentence. None of the changes suggested will im-

prove it. '*d*' is therefore, the correct answer.

Errors may be in grammar, appropriate word usage or idioms. There may be a necessary word missing or there may be a word which should be removed.

Now attempt items 11 to 20.

11. Scarcely had the people retired than the earthquake shook the whole area.

- (a) that (b) when
- (c) while
- (d) No improvement

12. The river has overflown its banks on account of the flood.

- (a) has overflowed
- (b) overflow
- (c) had overflown
- (d) No improvement

13. Susheela availed herself of all the leave to her credit.

- (a) availed of (b) availed
- (c) availed for
- (d) No improvement

14. By the time the programme gets under way you would know the joy of having planned it.

- (a) will have known
- (b) had known
- (c) could know
- (d) No improvement

15. He asked me what I am doing.

- (a) that what I was doing
- (b) what I was doing
- (c) what was I doing
- (d) No improvement

16. We have read that book, haven't we?

- (a) isn't it? (b) didn't we?
- (c) have we?
- (d) No improvement

17. If only I knew earlier I would have sent a telegram.

- (a) I had known earlier
- (b) I know earlier
- (c) I had been knowing earlier
- (d) No improvement

18. I never in all my life have heard such nonsense!

- (a) I have never heard in all my life
- (b) Never in all my life have I heard
- (c) Never I have heard in all my life
- (d) No improvement

19. The doctor is not sure whether the patient died from cholera or of over-eating.

- (a) of cholera or of over-eating
- (b) of cholera or because of over-eating
- (c) from cholera or from over-eating
- (d) No improvement

20. You can make alternate arrangements if you are going to be on leave.

- (a) alternating (b) altering
- (c) alternative
- (d) No improvement

VOCABULARY

Synonyms (Items 21 to 25)

Directions:

In this Section you find a number of sentences, parts of which are underlined. You may also find only a group of words which is underlined. For each underlined part, four words/phrases are listed below. Choose the word nearest in meaning to the underlined part and blacken the corresponding space on the Answer Sheet.

Example 'E' is solved for you

E. His style is quite transparent.

- (a) verbose (b) involved
- (c) lucid (d) witty

Explanation: In item 'E' the word "lucid" is nearest in meaning to the word "transparent". So (c) is the correct answer

Now attempt items 21 to 25.

21. The student's attitude towards his teacher was deterential.

- (a) evasive (b) rude
- (c) indifferent
- (d) respectful

22. There was intermittent rainfall throughout the afternoon.

- (a) heavy (b) sporadic
- (c) continual (d) fleeting

23. The thief skilfully eluded the police net.

- (a) avoided (b) jumped
- (c) crossed (d) jilted

24. He explained his precarious strategy to his followers in unequivocal terms.

- (a) unmistakable
- (b) unnatural
- (c) unknown
- (d) forceful

25. This variety of pigeon has now become extinct.

- (a) extant (b) rare
- (c) distinct (d) dead

Antonyms (Items 26 to 30)

Directions:

In this section each item consists of a word or a phrase which is underlined

in the sentence given. It is followed by four words or phrases. Select the word or phrase which is closest to the opposite in meaning of the underlined word or phrase.

Example "F" has been solved for you.

F. Lucy is a smart girl.

- (a) lazy (b) active
- (c) indecent (d) casual

Explanation:

The word which is nearest opposite in meaning to the underlined word "smart" is "lazy". So (a) is the correct answer.

Now attempt items 26 to 30.

26. No one can admire a deceitful boy.

- (a) dull (b) sincere
- (c) mischievous
- (d) aggressive

27. He gave a shallow argument in defence of his case.

- (a) unpretentious
- (b) learned
- (c) complicated
- (d) considered

28. His health appeared to have further deteriorated because of his exasperating routine at college.

- (a) augmented (b) thrived
- (c) improved
- (d) enhanced

29. The remarks made by the advocate in the court were effectively concise.

- (a) obscure (b) verbose
- (c) perspicuous
- (d) piquant

30. We have carefully read your explanation and it sounds plausible.

- (a) incoherent
- (b) unconvincing
- (c) undesirable
- (d) impertinent

SELECTING WORDS

(Items 31 to 40)

Directions:

In the following passage at certain points, you are given a choice of three words marked (a), (b), (c). Choose the best word from these three and indicate your choice in the relevant column of your Answer Sheet.

Examples Z₁ and Z₂ have been solved for you.

Z₁. The

- (a) boy (b) horse
- (c) dog

was in the school in Shimla.

Z₂. (a) She (b) It

(c) He

was homesick.

Explanation:

Out of the list given in item Z₁, only "boy" is the correct choice. So (a) is the correct answer. For item Z₂ (c) is the correct answer, because that is the pronoun which refers back to the noun 'boy'.

Now attempt items 31 to 40.

What is the aim of all this travelling? Each nationality has its own different aim with it. The Americans want to take photographs of themselves in Trafalgar Square, with the pigeons; in the Piazza san Marco, Venice, with the pigeons; and in front of the Arc de Triomphe, Paris, without pigeons. The idea is simply to collect documentary proofs that they have been there. The German travels to check up

31. (a) from

(b) in (c) on

his guide books : when he sees that

32. (a) a

(b) the (c) a certain

ponte de Rialto is really at its proper

33. (a) venue,

(b) end, (c) direction,

that the Leaning Tower is in

34. (a) its'

(b) it's (c) its

appointed place in Pisa and is

35. (a) leaning

(b) bending (c) sloping

at the angle promised, he ticks

36. (a) those

(b) the (c) these

things off in his guide-book and

37. (a) walks

(b) returns (c) saunters

home with a gratifying feeling that

38. (a) he

(b) she (c) one

has not been swindled. But why

39. (a) did

(b) does (c) do

the English travel? First, because their

40. (a) country man

(b) nearest man

(c) neighbour

does and they have caught the bug from him. Secondly, they used to be taught that travel broadens the mind and, although they have by now discovered the sad truth that whatever travel may do to the mind, Swiss and German food certainly broadens certain other parts of the body, the old notion still lingers on.

COMPREHENSION

(Items 41 to 55)

Directions :

In this Section you have four short

passages. After each passage you will find several questions based on the passage. First, read Passage I, and answer the questions based on it. Then go on to the next passage.

Examples 'I' and 'J' are solved for you.

Passage

In our approach to life, be it pragmatic or otherwise, a basic fact that confronts us squarely and unmistakably is the desire for peace, security and happiness. Different forms of life at different levels of existence make up the teeming denizens of this earth of ours. And, no matter whether they belong to the higher groups such as human beings or to the lower groups such as animals, all beings primarily seek peace, comfort and security. Life is as dear to a mute creature as it is to a man. Even the lowliest insect strives for protection against dangers that threaten its life. Just as each one of us wants to live and not to die, so do all other creatures.

- I. The author's main point is that
- different forms of life are found on earth
 - different levels of existence are possible in nature
 - peace and security are the chief goals of all living beings
 - even the weakest creature struggles to preserve its life

J. Which one of the following assumptions or steps is essential in developing the author's position?

- All forms of life have a single overriding goal
- The will to survive of a creature is identified with a desire for peace
- All beings are divided into higher and lower groups
- A parallel is drawn between happiness and life and pain and death

Explanation:

I. The idea which represents the author's main point is 'peace and security are the chief goals of all living beings', which is response (c). So (c) is the correct answer.

J. The best assumption underlying the passage is 'The will to survive of a creature is identified with a desire for peace', which is response (b). So (b) is the correct answer.

Now attempt items 41 to 55.

Passage I

The joy of discovery is a very real incentive to research, despite the rare-

ness of its realization. It is an error to suppose that the scientist is unemotional, or could succeed if he were. The error has arisen through a misconception. The absolute necessity that a scientist's findings shall not be changed from objective truth in response to emotional urges of any kind does not result in his becoming a particularly unemotional person: whether a discoverer or anyone else is pleased with a discovery has no effect on its validity. 'I have been working like a madman at Drosera', wrote Darwin to Sir J.D. Hooker in reference to his study of insectivorous plants and a few days later, to the geologist, Lyell, 'at the present moment I care more about Drosera than the origin of all the species in the world... I am frightened and astounded at my results'. Kropotkin once wrote, 'There are not many joys in human life equal to the joy of the sudden birth of a generalization. ... He who has once in this life experienced this joy of scientific creation will never forget it.'

41. The author of the passage counters the misconception that a scientist is unemotional by pointing out that

- the objectivity of a scientist cannot make emotional compromises
- even such a great scientist as Darwin cared so much for Drosera
- he has the capacity to react to emotional appeals made by others
- he considers scientific discovery equal to the joy of creation

42. In this passage the author tells us that scientific research leads one to

- rare discoveries
- sure success
- success, sometimes
- finding the objective truth

43. Darwin's letter to Lyell reveals to us that he

- attached greater importance to his discovery of insectivorous plants than to his discovery of the origin of the species
- used to get deeply involved in whatever research, big or small, he had on hand at a given point of time
- was rather uncertain about his success in his research on insectivorous plants
- was worried that insectivorous plants would

destroy all species of insects

44. The findings of scientific researchers

- are universally welcome
- result in robbing the researcher of all emotions
- are objective in nature
- have universal validity

Passage II

One often comes across the remark, "It's not what you know that gets you ahead; it's who you know." We do not subscribe to this cynical remark, but neither do we wish to minimize the importance of having influential people back you up in your application. Often the recommendation of a person whose word is respected is a deciding factor in getting a job. This is perhaps especially true when an employer is considering a number of applications from graduates who do not have professional experience. The academic records alone might not provide a clear basis for a choice.

45. The recommendation letter of an influential person

- matters much because it has come from someone important
- proves the candidate's ability better than his or her academic record
- significantly helps where academic records are not decisive
- provides a clear basis for selection to a job

46. A recommendation letter is important because, it

- is given by an influential person
- helps an employer to oblige an influential person by appointing the person recommended by him or her
- helps an employer to choose from many who are not otherwise distinctive
- shows one's high connections

47. The writer does not affirm; he makes a tentative statement by using expressions like

- "cynical remark", "professional experience"
- "We do not subscribe ...", "neither do we wish ..."
- "What you know ...", "who you know..."
- "often", "perhaps", "especially", "alone"

Passage III

I had hardly settled to work on the next issue of the morning when the

boss stormed into the room, raging. Having joined his tabloid only a couple of months ago, I had come to think of him as an urbane, upright and meticulous man. The outburst, caused by a minor slip in the report filed by me yesterday, unnerved me completely. "Was this the man who had patted me on the shoulder only the other day for covering the Prime Minister's visit to the State?"—I asked myself in vain. I wrote out my resignation and walked out of the office in a stupor.

48. The boss stormed into the room, raging, because

- (a) he was sure that something terrible had happened
- (b) the author had made some mistake
- (c) he came to know that the author had come late
- (d) the author had not carried out his orders

49. From reading the passage one can conclude that the author worked in

- (a) a government office collecting and disseminating in-

formation about the visits of ministers and other VIPs

- (b) one of the departments of a privately owned daily newspaper
- (c) a private company bringing out a weekly news magazine
- (d) a publicity and public relations office run by a ruling political party

50. The author left the office in a stupor because

- (a) the sudden display of temper by the boss had unsettled him completely
- (b) he had to resign his position because of a minor slip on his part
- (c) he felt that he had failed utterly in the task assigned to him
- (d) the boss's behaviour towards him had often been harsh

51. The boss of the establishment where the author worked was a/an

- (a) nice man who insisted on perfection in work

- (b) quarrelsome man quick to find fault with others' work
- (c) decent man
- (d) unpleasant man of capricious moods

Passage IV

Then a terrible thing happened. While we were waiting for the coffee, the head waiter, with an ingratiating smile on his false face, came up to us bearing a large basket full of huge peaches. They had the blush of an innocent girl; they had the rich tone of an Italian landscape. But surely, peaches were not in season then? Lord knew what they cost. I knew too—a little later—for my guest, going on with her conversation, absent-mindedly took one.

'You see you've filled your stomach with a lot of meat'—my one miserable little chop—and you can't eat more. But I've just had a snack and I shall enjoy the peach.'

The bill came, and when I paid it I found that I had only enough for a quite inadequate tip. Her eyes rested for an

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GENERAL AWARENESS

Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission Exam for Assistants and Subordinates
4th February, 1996

We are grateful to Mr A. Karthikeyan of Karaikudi (T.N.) for sending these questions to us.

1. The Servants of Indian Society was founded in 1905 by:

- (a) Gopala Krishna Gokhale
- (b) A.O. Hume
- (c) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- (d) Mahatma Gandhi

2. Which of the following prominently fought for and got widow remarriage legalised?

- (a) M.G. Ranade
- (b) Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar
- (c) Raja Rammohan Roy
- (d) Annie Besant

3. Lalit Kala Academy was established by the Government of India to:

- (a) promote understanding of Indian Art
- (b) develop dance, drama and music
- (c) increase film production
- (d) propagate Indian culture

4. Which of the following Anglo-Mysore War came to an end by the Treaty of Seringapatam?

- (a) First Anglo-Mysore War
- (b) Second Anglo-Mysore War
- (c) Third Anglo-Mysore War
- (d) Fourth Anglo-Mysore War

5. Which of the following wrote the *Raghuvamsa*?

- (a) Dandin
- (b) Kalidasa
- (c) Asvaghosha
- (d) Sudraka

6. Who wrote the "Vande Mataram" hymn?

- (a) Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyaya
- (b) Sarat Chandra Chatterjee
- (c) Rabindranath Tagore
- (d) Mahatma Gandhi

7. The Dandi March was undertaken by Gandhi to:

- (a) break the Salt law
- (b) resolve the dispute among Gujarat Mill workers
- (c) press the demand for 'Poorna Swaraj'
- (d) start Satyagraha

8. Who was the first Vice-President of India?

- (a) Dr Zakir Hussain
- (b) Dr S. Radhakrishnan
- (c) V.V. Giri
- (d) G.S. Pathak

9. The Governor of State is:

- (a) free from the control of the Centre
- (b) controlled by the Centre and he is the agent of the President
- (c) not an agent of the President
- (d) not free to act in his discretion in certain matters

10. The Wahabi Movement could not achieve the status of a National Movement because:

- (a) it was thoroughly communal
- (b) it had no nationalist ideal
- (c) it denied membership to the Non-Muslims
- (d) all the above

11. Which of the following States in India has the largest electorate?

- (a) Bihar
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Rajasthan

12. The oath of the office of the President is conducted by:

- (a) The Chief Justice of India
- (b) The Prime Minister
- (c) The Vice-President of India
- (d) None of the above

13. Mrs Annie Besant became the first Woman President of the Indian National Congress in:

- (a) 1916
- (b) 1917
- (c) 1918
- (d) 1920

14. The most important item of Export from India to the Roman Empire was:

- (a) Pottery
- (b) Gold
- (c) Spices
- (d) Wine

15. The Allahabad Pillar Inscription provides us useful information about:

- (a) Samudragupta
- (b) Chandragupta-I
- (c) Skandagupta
- (d) Chandragupta-II

16. The first Indian Scholar who treated Mathematics as a distinct subject, was:

- (a) Aryabhatta
- (b) Vijayanandul
- (c) Varahamihira
- (d) Brahmagupta

17. Who gave the major source of information about Harsha among the following?

- (a) Kalhana
- (b) Bana
- (c) Bhavabhuti
- (d) Harisena

18. Krishnadevaraya belonged to the:

- (a) Sangama dynasty
- (b) Saluva dynasty
- (c) Tuluva dynasty
- (d) Aravidu dynasty

19. Vasco-de-Gama found out a new route to India

and in 1498 he reached:

- (a) Pulicat
 - (b) Karaikal
 - (c) Goa
 - (d) Calicut
20. The International Court of Justice is in:
- (a) India
 - (b) Switzerland
 - (c) Netherlands
 - (d) Finland
21. The Headquarters of International Atomic Energy Agency is:
- (a) Geneva
 - (b) Paris
 - (c) Vienna
 - (d) Washington
22. The emblem of U.N. is:
- (a) Dove
 - (b) Red
 - (c) Olive Branch
 - (d) White
23. Which Article deals with Emergency to be imposed due to external aggression?
- (a) 356
 - (b) 368
 - (c) 370
 - (d) 352
24. Who is the author of the book "My Frozen Turbulence in Kashmir"?
- (a) Anita Desai
 - (b) Khushwant Singh
 - (c) Arun Shourie
 - (d) Jagmohan
25. The first city in the world to be placed under UN patronage:
- (a) Sarajevo
 - (b) Geneva
 - (c) Somalia
 - (d) Bosnia
26. India's largest city:
- (a) Calcutta
 - (b) New Delhi
 - (c) Bombay
 - (d) Madras
27. Which one was the Capital of the Pandyas?
- (a) Malabar
 - (b) Madurai
 - (c) Tanjore
 - (d) Kancheepuram
28. Madras State changed its name to Tamil Nadu in the year:
- (a) 1968
 - (b) 1969
 - (c) 1970
 - (d) 1972
29. The 1996 Olympic Games will be hosted at:
- (a) New York
 - (b) Tokyo
 - (c) Sydney
 - (d) Atlanta
30. 1995 Wimbledon Tennis Champion was:
- (a) Andre Agassi
 - (b) Pete Sampras
 - (c) Michael Chang
 - (d) Sergi Bruguera
31. "A Tale of Two Cities" was written by:
- (a) George Eliot
 - (b) Charles Dickens
 - (c) Bernard Shaw
 - (d) William Shakespeare
32. Income Tax Rebate for senior citizens in the budget of 1994-95 qualifies people who are:
- (a) 58 and above
 - (b) 60 and above

- (c) 65 and above
 - (d) 70 and above
33. Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIP) is a part of:
- (a) Simla Agreement
 - (b) Rights guaranteed in the Constitution of India
 - (c) SAARC agenda
 - (d) GATT agenda
34. Which country is not the member of SAARC?
- (a) India
 - (b) Pakistan
 - (c) Myanmar
 - (d) Bangladesh
35. Operation Flood Project aims at:
- (a) Controlling the floods
 - (b) Dairy Development
 - (c) Better irrigation facilities
 - (d) None of the above
36. Mention the year of the Russian Revolution:
- (a) 1917
 - (b) 1919
 - (c) 1920
 - (d) 1924
37. Myanmar is the name of:
- (a) a famous scientist
 - (b) a country
 - (c) a famous book
 - (d) a famous doctor
38. Among the following the only person who resigned his Prime Ministership is:
- (a) Jawaharlal Nehru
 - (b) Indira Gandhi
 - (c) Lal Bahadur Shastri
 - (d) Morarji Desai
39. Mandal Commission submitted its report in the year:
- (a) 1985
 - (b) 1983
 - (c) 1990
 - (d) 1980
40. Name the currency of Bangladesh:
- (a) Dinar
 - (b) Dollar
 - (c) Taka
 - (d) Peso
41. Who won the World Cup Football, 1994?
- (a) Germany
 - (b) Bulgaria
 - (c) Brazil
 - (d) Argentina
42. Nobel Peace Prize for 1994 has been awarded to:
- (a) Nelson Mandela and De Klark
 - (b) Mikhail Gorbachev
 - (c) Yasser Arafat and Yit Zhak Rabin
 - (d) None of these
43. Which day is observed as Commonwealth Day by member countries?
- (a) May 24
 - (b) October 24
 - (c) November 14
 - (d) January 25
44. Which country won the World Masters' Cricket Tournament held in India in 1995?
- (a) India
 - (b) Sri Lanka
 - (c) South Africa
 - (d) West Indies
45. Who was the only Indian leader awarded the

highest award of India and the highest award of Pakistan for Civilian?

- (a) Jawaharlal Nehru
 - (b) Lal Bahadur Shastri
 - (c) Morarji Desai
 - (d) Indira Gandhi
46. Where is India's 13th Oil Refinery set up?
- (a) Panagudi
 - (b) Kalpakkam
 - (c) Trivandrum
 - (d) Srinagar
47. Who is the Chief Editor of Manorama Year Book, 1995?
- (a) Mammen Mathew
 - (b) K.M. Mahtew
 - (c) T.N. Ninan
 - (d) None of the above
48. N. Ram was the Editor of which daily newspaper?
- (a) Indian Express
 - (b) Dinamalar
 - (c) The Hindu
 - (d) Economic Times
49. Who is the author of "The Discovery of India"?
- (a) Motilal Nehru
 - (b) Jawaharlal Nehru
 - (c) Indira Gandhi
 - (d) Rajiv Gandhi
50. What is the maximum rate of interest fixed by the Reserve Bank of India on Term Deposits on April 17, 1995?
- (a) 12 per cent
 - (b) 14 per cent
 - (c) 16 per cent
 - (d) None of the above
51. Who is the present President of America?
- (a) Bill Clinton
 - (b) Robert Clinton
 - (c) Still Clinton
 - (d) Mill Clinton
52. A.H. Rafsanjani is the _____ President.
- (a) Iranian
 - (b) French
 - (c) German
 - (d) None of the above
53. Name the US Treasury Secretary who visited India in April, 1995:
- (a) Robert Keynes
 - (b) Herbert Keynes
 - (c) Robert Rubin
 - (d) Maynard Keynes
54. Statistics deals with:
- (a) all relevant facts
 - (b) all facts which are numerically expressed

- (c) only those numerical facts which are relevant to the inquiry
- (d) only facts relating to social or economic phenomena

55. What is the total number of seats for the Lok Sabha?

- (a) 525
- (b) 540
- (c) 542
- (d) 545

56. The Sarkaria Commission Report dealt with:

- (a) Higher education
- (b) Centre-State relations
- (c) Political parties
- (d) River Water disputes

57. Which language is not specified in the 8th Schedule of the Indian Constitution?

- (a) Sanskrit
- (b) Sindhi
- (c) Urdu
- (d) Dogri

58. The Parliament in India consists of:

- (a) President, Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha
- (b) Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha
- (c) Lok Sabha, Prime Minister, Council of Ministers
- (d) Speaker, Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha

59. The Speaker of India is elected for a period of:

- (a) 5 years
- (b) 6 years
- (c) 7 years
- (d) 4 years

60. "The Public Accounts Committee" submits its report to:

- (a) The Parliament
- (b) The President
- (c) The Prime Minister
- (d) The Finance Minister

61. What is the retirement age of a Union Public Service Commission member?

- (a) 65 years
- (b) 62 years
- (c) 60 years
- (d) 58 years

62. What should be the minimum age of a member of the Lok Sabha?

- (a) 21 years
- (b) 18 years
- (c) 25 years
- (d) 35 years

63. Who was known as the "Lion of the Punjab"?

- (a) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- (b) Lala Lajpat Rai
- (c) Bhagat Singh
- (d) G.K. Gokhale

64. Who, out of the following, was not a member of the Drafting Committee of the Indian Constitution?

- (a) Dr B.R. Ambedkar
- (b) N. Gopalswami Ayyangar
- (c) Alladi Krishnaswami
- (d) Sardar Patel

65. New Delhi became the capital of India in the year:
 (a) 1911
 (b) 1119
 (c) 1947
 (d) 1950
66. The Governor of the State is:
 (a) elected by the State Legislature
 (b) nominated by the Prime Minister
 (c) appointed by the Chief Justice of India
 (d) appointed by the President
67. How long can a person remain as minister in India without being a member of Parliament?
 (a) Three months
 (b) Six months
 (c) Nine months
 (d) One year
68. Planning Commission in India is:
 (a) a Ministry
 (b) a Government Department
 (c) an Advisory Body
 (d) a Public Corporation
69. Following are the former Vice-Presidents of India. Identify the correct order in which they held the office:
 (a) Dr Zakir Hussain, R. Venkataraman, B.D. Jatti and G.S. Pathak
 (b) B.D. Jatti, Dr Zakir Hussain, G.S. Pathak and R. Venkataraman
 (c) G.S. Pathak, B.D. Jatti, Dr Zakir Hussain and R. Venkataraman
 (d) Dr Zakir Hussain, G.S. Pathak, B.D. Jatti and R. Venkataraman
70. Which one of the following Articles lays down that the State shall take steps to organise village panchayats?
 (a) Article 40
 (b) Article 26
 (c) Article 57
 (d) Article 58
71. The Constitution of India is:
 (a) rigid
 (b) flexible
 (c) partly rigid and partly flexible
 (d) very rigid
72. Who played a vital role in the Integration of Princely States?
 (a) Jawaharlal Nehru and Sardar Patel
 (b) Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru
 (c) Sardar Patel and G.B. Pant
 (d) Sardar Patel and V.P. Menon
73. The Lok Sabha Secretariat comes under the direct supervision of the:
 (a) Ministry of Home Affairs
 (b) Minister of Parliamentary Affairs
 (c) Speaker of the Lok Sabha
 (d) President
74. In which year were the States reorganised on a linguistic basis?
 (a) 1947
 (b) 1951
 (c) 1956
 (d) 1966
75. The Community Development Programme was launched with a view to:
 (a) overcoming the problem of unemployment
 (b) developing scientific outlook among the rural folk
 (c) cultivating the spirit of self-reliance and initiative among rural people
 (d) all these objectives
76. Governor can issue Ordinance
 (a) whenever Chief Minister advises him
 (b) whenever he likes
 (c) when the State Legislature is not in Session and he is satisfied that immediate action is needed
 (d) when the Union Government directs him to do so.
77. The emergency in a State is declared if there is a complete breakdown of the administrative machinery in the State, or if the Government of the State cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution under:
 (a) Article 357
 (b) Article 350
 (c) Article 356
 (d) Article 360
78. The Fundamental Rights granted to the Indian Citizens are contained in:
 (a) Part II of the Constitution
 (b) Part III of the Constitution
 (c) Part IV of the Constitution
 (d) Part V of the Constitution
79. On which side of India lies the Arabian Sea?
 (a) North East
 (b) South East
 (c) South West
 (d) North West
80. Manganese occurs in:
 (a) Gujarat
 (b) Andhra Pradesh
 (c) Both
 (d) None
81. Gold occurs in:
 (a) Tamil Nadu
 (b) Orissa
 (c) Both
 (d) None
82. Lakshadweep is situated in the:
 (a) Arabian Sea
 (b) Bay of Bengal

- (c) Indian Ocean
(d) None of these
83. Ankleshwar oilfield is in:
(a) Maharashtra
(b) Gujarat
(c) Bihar
(d) Assam
84. The first fertilizer plant was set up at:
(a) Nangal (Punjab)
(b) Alwaye (Kerala)
(c) Trombay (Maharashtra)
(d) Sindri (Bihar)
85. Which of the Indian States has the maximum number of common borders with other Indian States?
(a) West Bengal
(b) Madhya Pradesh
(c) Uttar Pradesh
(d) Karnataka
86. The longest shoreline is along the State of:
(a) Gujarat
(b) Maharashtra
(c) Orissa
(d) Kerala
87. Canal irrigation is most important in North India because the:
(a) soil is porous
(b) level of underground water is high
(c) perennial rivers
(d) region is densely populated
88. Diamond is found in India at:
(a) Khetri (Rajasthan)
(b) Panna (Madhya Pradesh)
(c) Golkonda (Andhra Pradesh)
(d) Kolar (Karnataka)
89. Chilka lake is situated in:
(a) Tamil Nadu
(b) West Bengal
(c) Andhra Pradesh
(d) Orissa
90. World's longest dam is located on:
(a) Mahanadi (b) Sutlej
(c) Cauvery
(d) Ganga
91. Match the following:
- | I | II |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| (a) Kumaon Himalayas | 1. Between Indus & Sutlej |
| (b) Nepal Himalayas | 2. Between Kali & Teesta |
| (c) Punjab Himalayas | 3. Between Teesta & Brahmaputra |
| (d) Assam Himalayas | 4. Between Sutlej & Kali. |

- | | a | b | c | d |
|-----|---|---|---|---|
| (a) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| (b) | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| (c) | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| (d) | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
92. On the beaches of Kerala and Tamil Nadu we get "rare earths" or:
(a) Lignite (b) Iron
(c) Monazite (d) Manganese
93. The expected growth rate of population in India in 1991 was:
(a) 1.25% (b) 1.92%
(c) 2.11% (d) 3.86%
94. 'Operation Flood' refers to:
(a) giving relief to flood-hit areas
(b) increasing the supply of milk and milk products
(c) importing large quantities of goods
(d) huge army attacking the terrorists
95. The Steel Plant in Tamil Nadu is situated at:
(a) Tiruchi
(b) Salem
(c) Coimbatore
(d) Tuticorin
96. Where are electric locomotives manufactured?
(a) Chittaranjan
(b) Varanasi
(c) Bhopal
(d) Jamshedpur
97. Match the following:
- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| (a) Glass | 1. Phosphorus |
| (b) Molasses | 2. Sodium silicate |
| (c) Match stick | 3. Cinchona |
| (d) Quinine | 4. Sugarcane |
- | a | b | c | d |
|-------|---|---|---|
| (a) 2 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| (b) 1 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| (c) 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| (d) 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
98. In which type of climate are coniferous forests found?
(a) Savanna (b) Mediterranean
(c) Siberian (d) Hot desert
99. Which of the following is a prokaryote?
(a) Blue-green alga
(b) Green alga
(c) Mushroom
(d) Fern
100. With what technology do you associate 'callus' with?
(a) Karyotyping
(b) Gene manipulation
(c) Pollen analysis
(d) Tissue culture

101. What good thing happens to our body when we expose to Sunrays?

- (a) Produces Vitamin 'D' in our body
- (b) Produces perspiration
- (c) Produces heat in our body
- (d) Decreases blood pressure

102. Neurology is a science of this system:

- (a) Skeletal system
- (b) Alimentary system
- (c) Circulatory system
- (d) Nervous system

103. Dinosaurs roamed the earth about:

- (a) 180 million years ago
- (b) 90 million years ago
- (c) 80 million years ago
- (d) 10 thousand years ago

104. When does the heart take rest?

- (a) while you sleep
- (b) between beats
- (c) during stress
- (d) never

105. ECG gives information of the:

- (a) Brain
- (b) Liver
- (c) Lungs
- (d) Auricles and ventricles

106. Which most vital system is absent in tapeworm?

- (a) Digestive
- (b) Nervous
- (c) Excretory
- (d) Reproductive

107. Penicillin was discovered by:

- (a) Robert Koch
- (b) Alexander Flemming
- (c) Waksman
- (d) Blackeslee

108. Which of the following is a bacterial disease?

- (a) Rabies
- (b) Measles
- (c) Smallpox
- (d) Tuberculosis

109. Triple antigen is:

- (a) a vaccine against tetanus, whooping cough and diphtheria
- (b) a vaccine against malaria, typhoid and cancer
- (c) a vaccine against polio and rabies
- (d) mixture of viruses that cause tetanus, diphtheria and whooping cough

110. Acetyl salicylic acid is used as:

- (a) Pain reliever
- (b) Paint
- (c) Fertilizer
- (d) Coolant

111. The important ingredient present in coffee is:

- (a) Caffeine
- (b) Theobromine
- (c) Cinchonine
- (d) Quinine

112. Name the poison present in tobacco.

- (a) Coniine
- (b) Nicotine
- (c) Theobromine
- (d) Narcotine

113. Hardness of water is due to the soluble salts of:

- (a) Sodium and Potassium
- (b) Potassium and Calcium
- (c) Sodium and Magnesium
- (d) Calcium and Magnesium

114. Which of the following metals pollutes the air of a city having automobiles?

- (a) Cadmium
- (b) Chromium
- (c) Lead
- (d) Copper

115. The Central Fuel Research Institute is located at:

- (a) Jealgora
- (b) Dhabad
- (c) Cochin
- (d) Calcutta

116. Cooking is quicker in a Pressure Cooker because

- (a) increased pressure raises boiling point
- (b) steam is not wasted
- (c) steam cooks food faster
- (d) water boils at lower temperature

117. When a ship floats on water:

- (a) the weight of water displaced is more than that of the ship
- (b) the weight of water displaced is less than that of the ship
- (c) the weight of water displaced equals that of the ship
- (d) it displaces no water

118. GSLV project of India is connected to:

- (a) Agriculture development
- (b) Conservation of river water
- (c) Banking system
- (d) Missile engines for Space Programmes

119. A Decibel is:

- (a) the relative intensity of sound
- (b) unwanted noise
- (c) a magnetic assembly in a tape
- (d) the arm of a record-player

120. An antenna

- (a) converts short waves into long waves
- (b) absorbs heat
- (c) converts heat into light
- (d) converts radio waves into electrical signals

121. Fahrenheit is converted to Celsius by this formula:

(a) $(F - 32) \times \frac{5}{9}$

(b) $F \times \frac{5}{9}$

(c) $(F + 32) \times \frac{9}{5}$

(d) $(F + 32) \times \frac{5}{9}$

122. The Ozone layer protects us from:

- (a) UV radiations
- (b) Radio waves
- (c) Visible radiations

(d) Infra-red radiations.

123. Through a soap film, different colours are seen by white light because of the phenomenon of:

- (a) Interference
- (b) Reflection
- (c) Diffraction
- (d) Dispersion

124. Sound energy is converted into electrical energy by a:

- (a) Microphone
- (b) Loudspeaker
- (c) Telephone
- (d) Radio

125. Light from the LASER is:

- (a) monochromatic
- (b) composite
- (c) dispersed light
- (d) incoherent

ANSWERS

- | | | | | |
|-----------------|---|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. (a) | 2. (c) | 3. (a) | 4. (c) | 5. (b) |
| 6. (a) | 7. (a) | 8. (b) | 9. (b) | 10. (d) |
| 11. (b) | 12. (a) | 13. (b) | 14. (c) | 15. (a) |
| 16. (a) | 17. (b) | 18. (d) | 19. (d) | 20. (c) |
| 21. (c) | 22. (c) | 23. (d) | 24. (d) | 25. (a) |
| 26. (c) | 27. (b) | 28. (b) | 29. (d) | 30. (b) |
| 31. (b) | 32. (c) | 33. (d) | 34. (c) | 35. (b) |
| 36. (a) | 37. (b) | 38. (d) | 39. (d) | 40. (c) |
| 41. (c) | 42. (a) | 43. (a) | 44. (d) | 45. (c) |
| 46. (a) | 47. (b) | 48. (c) | 49. (b) | 50. (a) |
| 51. (a) | 52. (a) | 53. (c) | 54. (d) | 55. (d) |
| 56. (b) | 57. (d) | 58. (a) | 59. (a) | 60. (a) |
| 61. (a) | 62. (c) | 63. (b) | 64. (d) | 65. (a) |
| 66. (d) | 67. (b) | 68. (c) | 69. (d) | 70. (a) |
| 71. (c) | 72. (d) | 73. (c) | 74. (c) | 75. (c) |
| 76. (c) | 77. (c) | 78. (b) | 79. (d) | |
| 80. (d) | Manganese occur in Madhya Pradesh | | | |
| 81. (d) | Gold occurs in Karnataka (Kolar Gold-fields). | | | |
| 82. (a) | 83. (b) | 84. (d) | 85. (b) | 86. (a) |
| 87. (c) | 88. (b) | 89. (d) | 90. (b) | 91. (d) |
| 92. (a) and (c) | 93. (a) | 94. (b) | 95. (b) | |
| 96. (b) | 97. (c) | 98. (c) | 99. (a) | 100. (d) |
| 101. (a) | 102. (d) | 103. (a) | 104. (d) | 105. (d) |
| 106. (a) | 107. (b) | 108. (d) | 109. (a) | 110. (a) |
| 111. (a) | 112. (b) | 113. (d) | 114. (c) | 115. (b) |
| 116. (a) | 117. (c) | 118. (d) | 119. (a) | 120. (d) |
| 121. (a) | 122. (a) | 123. (d) | 124. (a) | 125. (a) |

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TEST OF REASONING—1

Find out the missing numbers:

1. 19; 18; 17; 15; ...; 8; -1
(a) 12 (b) 10 (c) 11 (d) 9
(e) None of these
2. 3; 8; 12; 21; ...
(a) 34 (b) 29 (c) 31 (d) 37
(e) None of these
3. 2; 13; 3; 25; 4; ...; 5
(a) 36 (b) 33 (c) 41 (d) 35
(e) None of these
4. 7; 8; 18; ...; 232.
(a) 68 (b) 57 (c) 79 (d) 113
(e) None of these
5. 6; 8; 14; 32; ...
(a) 64 (b) 86 (c) 76 (d) 58
(e) None of these
6. 11; 12; 13; 16; 15; ...; 17; 24.
(a) 18 (b) 22 (c) 20 (d) 19
(e) None of these
7. -2; 1; 6; ...; 22; 33.
(a) 13 (b) 16 (c) 45 (d) 19
(e) None of these
8. 8; ...; 16; 27; 24; 18; 32; 9.
(a) 15 (b) 13 (c) 35 (d) 36
(e) None of these

In questions 9 to 13 four out of five pairs of numbers have similar relationship while one is different. Find out the one that is not similar to others:

9. (a) 9 : 21 (b) 1 : 5 (c) 7 : 16
(d) 6 : 15 (e) 11 : 25
10. (a) 31 : 13 (b) 27 : 72 (c) 19 : 92
(d) 22 : 22 (e) 34 : 43
11. (a) 24 : 9 (b) 33 : 12 (c) 72 : 25
(d) 3 : 2 (e) 12 : 7
12. (a) 6 : 9 (b) 2 : 1 (c) 10 : 25
(d) 21 : 28 (e) 8 : 16
13. (a) 18 : 24 (b) 21 : 27 (c) 24 : 32
(d) 36 : 48 (e) 6 : 8

Find the odd-man out:

14. (a) CAE (b) KGM (c) NLP
(d) YWA (e) RPT
15. (a) NKMJ (b) FCEB (c) URTQ
(d) KHJG (e) TQRP
16. (a) GT7 (b) IR9 (c) CX3
(d) MN13 (e) JP10
17. (a) J30T (b) D22R (c) H18R
(d) A28Z (e) B7E
18. (a) ZYW (b) SQN (c) GEB
(d) MKH (e) JHE

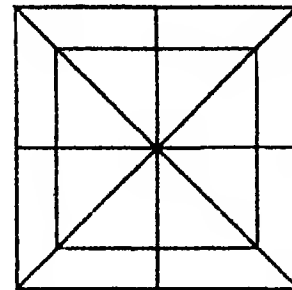
Questions 19 to 21 are based on special arrangement of the alphabets:

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

Write A, then write the next four letters in reverse order, followed by next four letters in their regular order; again write the next four letters in reverse order and the next four as they are. Repeat the same process till you reach Y and then write Z.

19. The letter 'M' is sandwiched between:
(a) L and N (b) I and L (c) N and Q
(d) J and Q (e) None of these
20. Which letter would be to the right of Q?
(a) U (b) P (c) M
(d) R (e) None of these
21. Which letter is exactly in the middle of 10th letter from the left and 13th letter from the right?
(a) M (b) P (c) J
(d) K (e) None of these

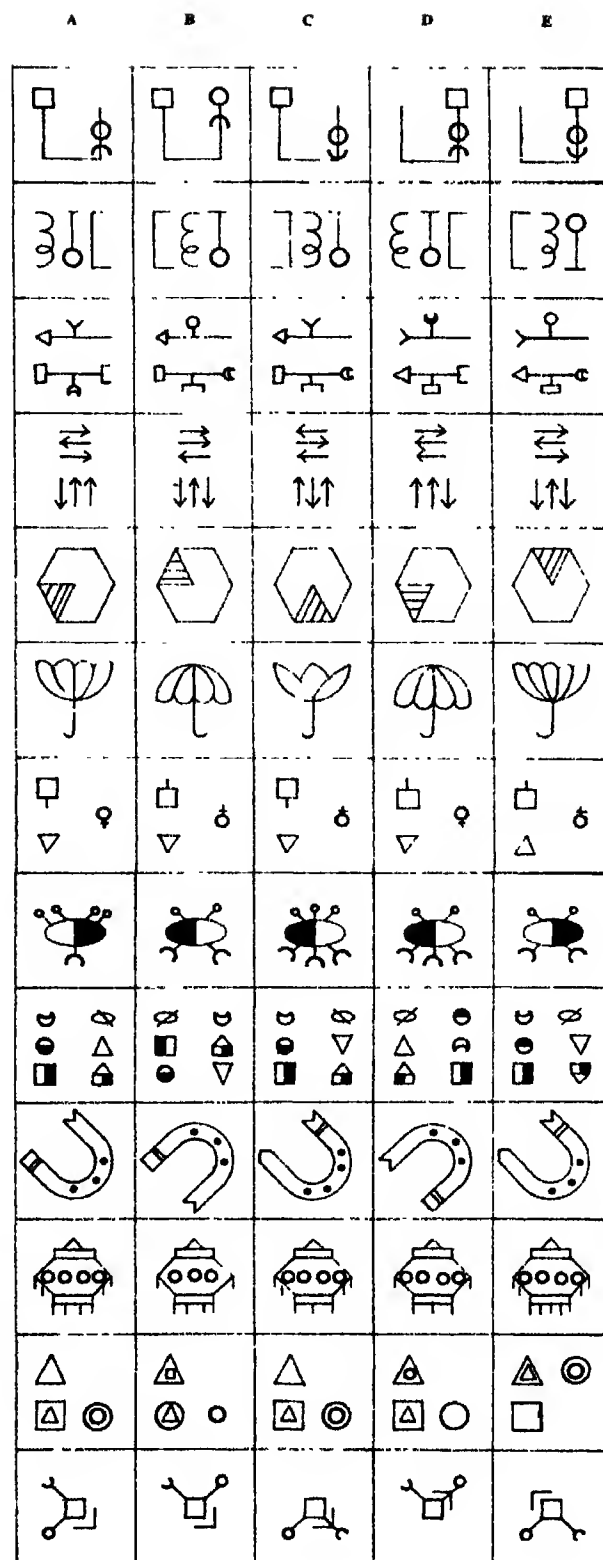
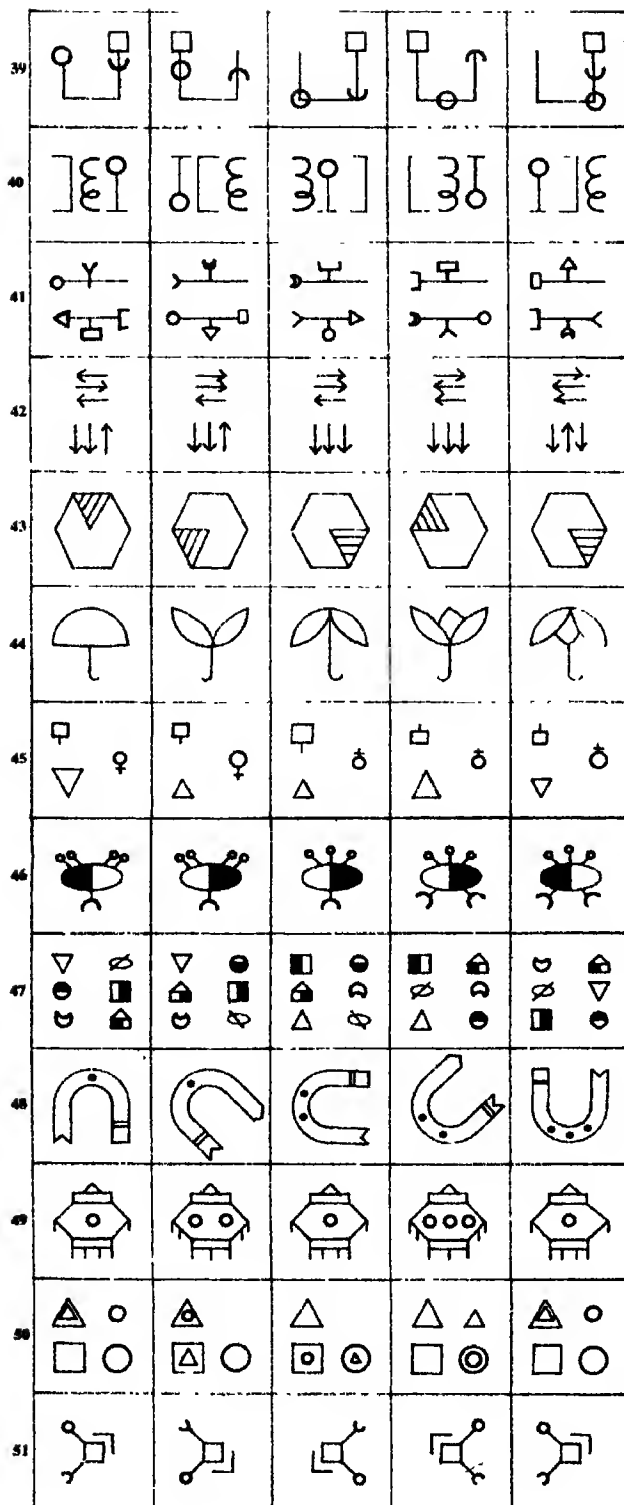
Questions 22 to 24 are based on the figure given below:



22. How many triangles are there in the figure?
(a) 16 (b) 24 (c) 28
(d) 32 (e) None of these
23. Count the number of squares in the figure.
(a) 4 (b) 8 (c) 10
(d) 12 (e) None of these
24. How many straight lines are needed to form this figure?
(a) 10 (b) 12 (c) 16
(d) 8 (e) None of these
25. If 29th February of a certain year fell on Wednesday. On which day would the next 29th February fall? (i.e. the leap year occurs after four years).
(a) Monday (b) Tuesday (c) Thursday
(d) Friday (e) Sunday

Qs. 26 to 55. Given below are two sets of figures, the Problem Figures and the Answer Figures marked A, B, C, D and E. You have to find out which of the Answer Figures would be the next one in the series of Problem Figures.

PROBLEM FIGURES					ANSWER FIGURES				
					A	B	C	D	E
26									
27									
28									
29									
30									
31									
32									
33									
34									
35									
36									
37									
38									

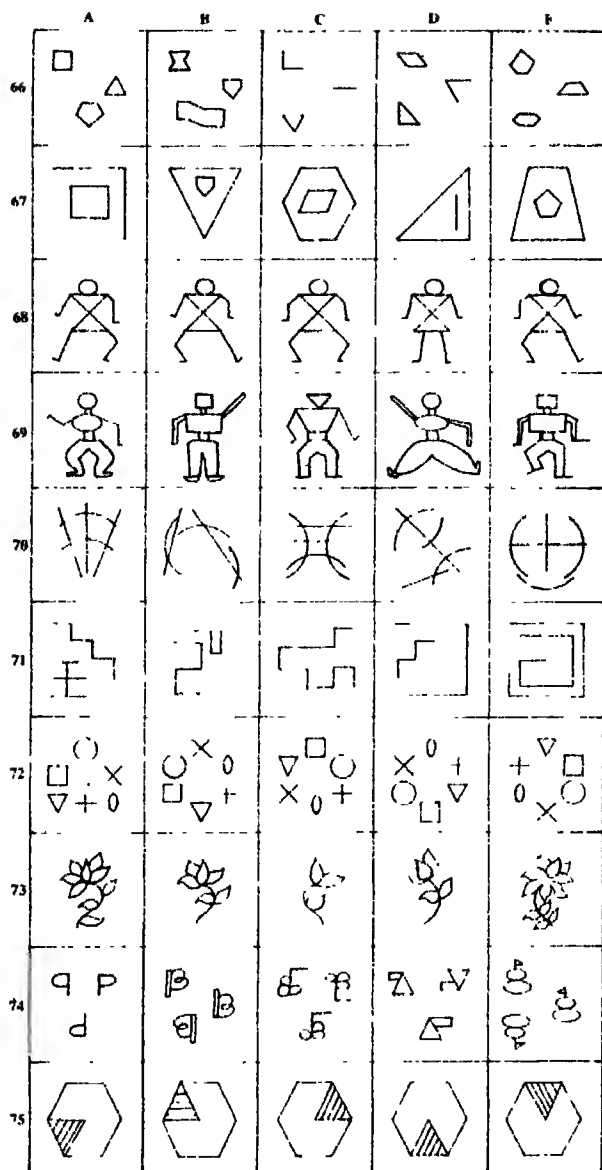


					A	B	C	D	E
52									
53									
54									
55									

In questions 56 to 65, the first two figures, I and II have certain relationship. You have to find out from A, B, C, D and E, the figure with a similar relationship with III.

	I	II	III	IV	A	B	C	D	E
56				.					
57				.					
58				.					
59				.					
60				.					
61				.					
62				.					
63				.					
64				.					
65	RM	WR	SL	.	LT	TS	T2	2L	ST

Find the odd-man out:



ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (c) Go on deducting 1, 1^2 , 2, 2^2 , 3, 3^2 ... respectively from numbers.
2. (a) Add the preceding number + 1 to get the next number.
3. (c) The series is, 2; $2^2+3^2=13$; 3; $3^2+4^2=25$; 4; $4^2+5^2=41$; 5 ...
4. (b) The series is 7; $(7 \times 1) + 1$; 8; $(8 \times 2) + 2$; 18; $(18 \times 3) + 3$; 57; $(57 \times 4) + 4$.
5. (b) Multiply each number by 3 and deduct 10 from the product.
6. (c) There are two series, 11, 13, 15, 17 ... and 12, 16, 20, 24 ...
7. (a) The series is, 1^2-3 ; 2^2-3 ; 3^2-3 ; 4^2-3 ...
8. (d) There are two series, 8, 16, 24, 32 and 36, 27, 18, 9 ...
9. (c) All the others are $x : 2x + 3$.
10. (c) In all the others the digits of the number are reversed.

11. (e) In all the others the next number is one-third plus one of the preceding number.
12. (d) In all the others, the arrangement is $x \times 2 : x^2$.
13. (b) In all the others, the ratio between the numbers is 3 : 4.
For solving the next type of questions, write the alphabets and number them. It becomes easy to study the similarity and arrangement.
14. (b) 15. (e)
16. (e) In all the others the letters occupy the same place from right and left.
17. (d) Solve by adding numbers of the letters according to their position in the alphabets.
18. (a) 19. (b) 20. (a) 21. (d) 22. (d)
23. (c) 24. (b) 25. (a)

For solving the next type of questions, keep the following points in view:

- (i) Study each individual figure of the question separately as well as in relationship with other figures.
- (ii) The movement of the figure is very important, it may rotate, tilt, turn upside down or change direction at its own place or may do so along with its movement.
- (iii) Study the steps taken during movement. The movement may be clockwise, anti-clockwise, up and down, sideways, from corner to corner or along certain points. A definite set of figures may interchange position among themselves while the other set may do so in opposite direction.
- (iv) Something may be added or dropped with each next step.
- (v) The figures may get smaller or bigger according to a set pattern.

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 26. D | 27. D | 28. A | 29. E | 30. B |
| 31. A | 32. C | 33. C | 34. D | 35. E |
| 36. B | 37. A | 38. C | 39. A | 40. D |
| 41. B | 42. E | 43. A | 44. D | 45. D |
| 46. B | 47. C | 48. E | 49. C | 50. D |
| 51. A | 52. D | 53. B | 54. A | 55. B |
| 56. E | 57. E | 58. B | 59. A | 60. D |
| 61. C | 62. D | 63. B | 64. A | 65. C |

66. D. If you start counting from the figure having minimum sides, one side increases in each next figure, anti-clockwise, in this one the arrangement is reversed.
67. E. There is a difference of two sides between the inner and the outer figures, in this one there is a difference of one side only.
68. B. This is the only one in which the position of left arm and left leg and right arm and right leg is not the same.
69. E. In all the others, both the legs are in the same position while the arms are different, in this one, the case is reversed.
70. A. All the other figures have two straight lines and three arcs.
71. C. In all the others, the two figures have a difference of one side only, in this one, one of the figures has two sides less.
72. C. The arrangement of figures is wrong.
73. D. In all the others, the number of petals is double of the number of leaves.
74. C. The direction of one of the vertical lines is wrong.
75. D. The direction of pattern is wrong.

TEST OF REASONING—II

Find the odd-man out:

1. (a) thermometer (b) perimeter
(c) barometer (d) seismograph (e) balance
2. (a) walrus (b) porpoise (c) whale
(d) seal (e) falcon
3. (a) orange (b) pink (c) yellow
(d) green (e) blue
4. (a) artery (b) ventricle (c) aorta
(d) bronchus (e) auricle
5. (a) mustard (b) wheat (c) rice
(d) maize (e) barley
6. (a) knuckles (b) palm (c) thumb
(d) elbow (e) finger
7. (a) litre (b) centimetre (c) kilogram
(d) gallon (e) ton
8. (a) carrot (b) onion (c) tomato
(d) potato (e) garlic

The pair of words in questions 9 to 16 has certain relationship. Your task is to find out from (a), (b), (c) and (d) the pair with similar relationship.

9. losses : inexperience
(a) lethargy : laziness (b) pride : fall
(c) indigestion : over-eating (d) sleep : dream
10. slap : pat
(a) beat : kick (b) fall : slip
(c) shrill : hum (d) break : crack
11. bank : money
(a) jail : criminals (b) bed : sleep
(c) food : hunger (d) tub : bath
12. telephone : dial
(a) radio : transmission (b) library : books
(c) traffic : police (d) piano : key
13. prophesy : foretell
(a) astronomy : palmistry (b) ailment : illness
(c) dictionary : words (d) music : art
14. rickshaw : vehicle
(a) tourist : visitor (b) hotel : comfort
(c) frock : garment (d) snake : poison
15. resin : trees
(a) lotus : water (b) language : speech
(c) cream : milk (d) wood : furniture
16. leopard : tiger
(a) emerald : ruby (b) python : lion
(c) book : knowledge (d) rose : thorn

Match questions 17 to 21 with (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) on the basis of identical relationship among items. The sequence of items need not be the same.

17. moon : gibbous : crescent
(a) innocent : judgement : guilty
18. reasoning : right : wrong
(b) explore : visit : sight-seeing
19. winter : rains : summer
(c) horse : ride : bicycle

20. printing : paper : cloth
(d) childhood : life : youth

21. stroll : walk : run
(e) evening : noon : morning

Find out the antonyms of the words given in questions 22 to 25.

22. pliable : ?
(a) inert (b) sluggish (c) stern
(d) brisk (e) slack
23. unforeseen
(a) visible (b) reasonable (c) anticipated
(d) surprise (e) foretell
24. addiction
(a) dispense (b) abstinence (c) neglect
(d) unrequired (e) discard
25. similarity
(a) strangeness (b) opposition
(c) unfamiliarity (d) contrast
(e) oddity

In questions 26 to 31, each capital letter given in the words is coded by a small letter. Your task is to find out the right code for letters in boxes.

26. P A R [C] E L
(a) x (b) n (c) f (d) q (e) k
(f) g
27. T A [M] P E R
(a) f (b) b (c) k (d) g (e) z
(f) x
28. R [U] S T I C
(a) a (b) b (c) h (d) d (e) n
(f) k
29. H O L [D] E R
(a) g (b) j (c) k (d) v (e) w
(f) q
30. C O M P L [Y]
(a) q (b) x (c) z (d) r (e) v
(f) n
31. F I S [H] E R
(a) h (b) d (c) u (d) k (e) g
(f) j

Correct the following equations by interchanging two signs. (Use BODMAS method)

32. $15+9\times 3-74+2=5$
(a) + and - (b) + and \times (c) + and +
(d) - and + (e) None of these
33. $51+3\times 12-6+3=11$
(a) + and + (b) - and + (c) \times and +
(d) - and \times (e) None of these
34. $16+4+2-21\times 7=21$
(a) + and - (b) + and \times (c) - and +
(d) \times and + (e) None of these

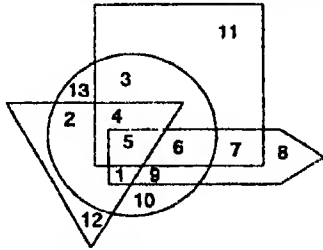
Questions 35 to 37 are based on the diagram given below. In the diagram each section is numbered.

The circle represents hilly region.

The triangle represents grass lands.

The square represents area that has snow in winter.

The five sided figure represents area covered with forests.



35. Which number represent the area which is not hilly nor has snow but is covered with forests as well as grasslands?

- (a) 1 (b) 5 (c) 6 (d) 9 (e) None

36. Number 4 represents the area that is:

- (a) hilly, has snow and grassland but not forest.
(b) hilly, has snow, grassland and forest.
(c) hilly, has snow, forests but no grassland.
(d) hilly, has forests, grassland but no snow.
(e) None of these.

37. Which number represents hilly region, that has snow but neither has forests nor grass?

- (a) 11 (b) 13 (c) 3 (d) 4
(e) None of these

Four youngmen Abhay, Bharat, Chandra and Dinesh are posted in Delhi, Agra, Bombay and Calcutta as chemist, doctor, accountant and branch-manager but not in the same order. Study the following statements and answer the questions that follow.

The first letter of the name of the persons does not match with the first letter of the city where he serves or with his profession.

Bharat does not live in Agra nor he is a doctor.

Abhay and Chandra do not live in Delhi.

Chandra and Dinesh are not accountant.

The person living in Agra is a chemist.

Abhay is not a doctor.

38. Who is the branch manager?

- (a) Abhay (b) Bharat (c) Chandra
(d) Dinesh (e) Can't be determined

39. Who lives in Bombay?

- (a) Abhay (b) Bharat (c) Chandra
(d) Dinesh (e) Can't be determined

40. Which of the following statement is wrong?

- (a) Chandra is a doctor.
(b) The accountant lives in Delhi.
(c) Dinesh is not the branch-manager.
(d) Abhay is a chemist.
(e) The branch-manager lives in Calcutta.

In each question below are given two statements followed by four conclusions numbered I, II, III and IV. You have to take the two given statements to be true even if they seem to be at variance with commonly known facts. Read all the conclusions and then decide which of the given conclusions logically follow from the two given

statements disregarding commonly known facts.

Statements:

41. 1. All balls are crows.
2. All crows are dogs.

Conclusions:

- I. All dogs are crows.
II. All balls are dogs.
III. Some crows are not balls.
IV. Every dog is either a crow or a ball.
(a) Only I follows. (b) Only II follows.
(c) Only I and II follow.
(d) Only III and IV follow.
(e) Only IV follows.

Statements:

42. 1. Some roads are slates.
2. All slates are tiles.

Conclusions:

- I. Some tiles are roads.
II. All tiles are slates.
III. Some slates are not roads.
IV. All tiles are roads.
(a) Only I follows. (b) Only II follows.
(c) Only III follows.
(d) Either III or IV follows.
(e) None follows.

Statements:

43. 1. All umbrellas are vases.
2. Some vases are windows

Conclusions.

- I. Some umbrellas are windows
II. All vases are umbrellas
III. No umbrella is a window.
IV. Every umbrella is either a vase or a window
(a) Only I follows. (b) Only II and IV follow.
(c) Only III and IV follow. (d) None follows
(e) Either I or III follows.

Statements.

44. 1. Some apples are biscuits.
2. Some biscuits are cups.

Conclusions:

- I. Some biscuits are not apples.
II. Some apples are not biscuits.
III. Some cups are apples.
IV. Some biscuits are not cups.
(a) Only I follows. (b) Only II and III follow.
(c) Only II and IV follow.
(d) All the conclusions follow.
(e) None follows.

Statements:

45. 1. Some forests are gardens.
2. All hills are gardens.

Conclusions:

- I. Every garden is either forest or hill.
II. Some gardens are hills as well as forests.
III. No forest is a hill.
IV. All forests are hills.

- (a) Either I or II follows.
- (b) Either II or III follows.
- (c) Only IV follows.
- (d) Only I follows.
- (e) None follows.

Statements:

- 46. 1. Every lemon is either mango or nut.
- 2. Every nut is green.

Conclusions:

- I. Some lemons are green.
- II. Some mangoes are green.
- III. Nothing is green except nuts.
- IV. Some nuts are mangoes.
- (a) Only I follows. (b) Only II follows.
- (c) Only III follows. (d) Only IV follows.
- (e) None follows.

Statements:

- 47. 1. Only those letters were posted which had no stamp on them.
- 2. Most of the letters were sent by hand.

Conclusions:

- I. The letters that were posted were less in number as compared to the letters sent by hand.
- II. The letters delivered by hand had no stamp on them.
- III. All the posted letters reached their destination
- IV. Most of the letters had stamp on them.
- (a) Only I follows. (b) Only II follows.
- (c) Only III and IV follow. (d) Only I and IV follow.
- (e) Either II or IV follows

Statements:

- 48. 1. All books are files.
- 2. All papers are files.

Conclusions:

- I. Every file is either book or paper.
- II. Some files are neither book nor paper.
- III. Some files are book as well as paper.
- IV. No file is book as well as paper.
- (a) Only I and II follow. (b) Only II or III follows.
- (c) Either III or IV follows. (d) Both III and IV follow.
- (e) None follows.

In each question below is given a statement followed by three assumptions numbered I, II and III. An assumption is something supposed or taken for granted. You have to consider the statement and the assumptions and decide which of the assumptions is implicit in the statement. Then decide which of the answers is correct

Statement:

- 49. Many explorers, who went in search of hidden cities connected with ancient civilisations, disappeared themselves.

Assumptions:

- I. The tribals living in these areas do not welcome outsiders and kill them.
- II. These cities lie buried in dangerous and dense forest so explorers fall prey to the wild animals.
- III. These ancient cities are haunted by spirits who do not allow any explorer to approach them.
- (a) Only I is implicit. (b) Only II is implicit.

- (c) Only III is implicit.
- (d) Either I or II is implicit.
- (e) Either II or III is implicit.

Statement:

- 50. The Government of a State has issued shoot at sight order on strikers who destroy public property.

Assumptions:

- I. The agitation has become rather violent.
- II. The demands of the strikers are not reasonable.
- III. The government does not have a sympathetic attitude towards the strikers.
- (a) Only I is implicit. (b) Only II is implicit.
- (c) Only III is implicit. (d) All are implicit.
- (e) None is implicit.

Statement:

- 51. A New York hospital has been ordered to pay a heavy fine for erroneously opening the wrong side of a patient's head for an operation.

Assumptions:

- I. The patient died on the operation table.
- II. The money received from the hospital authorities would be paid to the patient or his survivors.
- III. The incident reflects upon the carelessness of the hospital staff.
- (a) Only I is implicit. (b) Only II is implicit.
- (c) Only III is implicit.
- (d) Only I and II are implicit.
- (e) Only II and III are implicit.

Statement:

- 52. Share prices on the stock market keep on fluctuating.

Assumptions:

- I. The marketmen are very unreliable persons.
- II. There is a lot of competition in share market.
- III. No one ever gains anything by buying shares.
- (a) Only I is implicit. (b) Only II is implicit.
- (c) Only III is implicit. (d) All are implicit.
- (e) None is implicit.

Statement:

- 53. 'China has sold several complete factories suited for making poisonous gas to Iran.' A report in the 'Washington Post'.

Assumptions:

- I. Iran is trying to develop capability for making chemical weapons.
- II. China is well furnished in chemical technology.
- III. Previously, Iran depended upon import of chemical weapons.
- (a) Only I is implicit. (b) Only II is implicit.
- (c) Only III is implicit. (d) All are implicit.
- (e) None is implicit.

Statement:

- 54. The Principal of a public school insists upon giving classics to the talented students in prize at the Prize Distribution Function of the school.

Assumptions:

- I. The principal wants these students to read clas-

sics.

II. Classics are the cheapest item available as a prize.

III. Students cannot afford to buy classics themselves.

- (a) Only I and II are implicit.
- (b) Only I is implicit.
- (c) Only II and III are implicit.
- (d) Only III is implicit.
- (e) Only I and III are implicit.

Statement:

55. The Government of a country has barred all the foreign tourists from visiting one of its tourist places famous for old shrines and valuable statues.

Assumptions:

- I. The foreign tourists are often found trying to smuggle the valuable statues.
- II. The place is rather disturbed hence the tourists are not very safe there.
- III. The tourists often behave in a way that the religious people living in or looking after the shrines find objectionable.

- (a) Only I is implicit.
- (b) Only II is implicit.
- (c) Only III is implicit.
- (d) Either II or III is implicit.
- (e) Any one of the three is implicit.

Statement:

56. The Chief Minister of Haryana announced many incentives for women in Haryana to lift their socio-economic standard on the International Women's Day.

Assumptions:

- I. The socio-economic standard of men in Haryana is higher than women.
- II. It is only on International Women's Day that men give them a thought.
- III. These incentives would really prove helpful for the women of the State.

- (a) Only I is implicit.
- (b) Only II is implicit.
- (c) Only I and III are implicit.
- (d) Only III is implicit.
- (e) All are implicit.

In each question below is given a statement followed by three courses of actions numbered I, II and III. A course of action is a step or administrative decision to be taken for improvement, follow-up or further action in regard to the problem, policy etc. on the basis of the information given in the statement. You have to assume everything in the statement to be true, then decide which of the three suggested courses of action logically follow for pursuing.

Statement:

57. The authorities are realizing that the performance of banks has been severely affected by high call rates in the second half of fiscal 1995.

Courses of action:

- I. The rate of interest should be lowered.
- II. Customers should not be allowed to draw

money from banks for atleast 6 months.

III. The banks should be handed over to private sectors.

- (a) Only I follows for pursuing.
- (b) Only II follows.
- (c) Only III follows.
- (d) All follow.
- (e) None follows.

Statement:

58. More than 1.19 crore applications for an LPG connection are on the waiting list.

Courses of action:

- I. The production of LPG should be increased.
- II. The remaining requirement should be met by import.
- III. Some other cooking fuel should be made available to the people at a cheap rate.

- (a) Only I follows.
- (b) Only I and II follow.
- (c) Only II and III follow.
- (d) Only III follows.
- (e) None follows.

Statement:

59. Public is losing faith in leaders due to their alleged involvement in scams and scandals.

Courses of action:

- I. The manifesto of the leaders who have not been involved in these activities should be to provide a corruption free government.
- II. Persons who do not have a clean image should not be given tickets by any party.
- III. Leaders involved in scams and scandals should be severely punished.

- (a) Only I follows.
- (b) Only II follows.
- (c) Only III follows.
- (d) All the three follow.
- (e) None follows.

Statement:

60. The Family Welfare Programme is not yielding satisfactory results where birth control is concerned.

Courses of action:

- I. Voluntary Organizations should be asked to join the programme and those who work well should be rewarded and appreciated.
- II. All facilities should be withdrawn from the couple that have more than two children.
- III. Much stress should not be put on the health of infants and children so that child mortality may indirectly help in controlling population.

- (a) Only I follows.
- (b) Only II follows.
- (c) Only III follows.
- (d) Only I and II follow.
- (e) All the three follow.

Statement:

61. More and more youngmen are falling prey to drug addiction.

Courses of action:

- I. These addicts should be cut off from the society

- II. All the countries should join hands to stop drug trafficking altogether.
- III. The consequences of drug addiction should be projected more effectively through media.

- (a) Only I follows.
- (b) Only II and III follow.
- (c) Only I and II follow.
- (d) Either I or II follows.
- (e) Either II or III follows.

Statement:

62. In spite of rural poverty alleviation programme, India has not been as successful as China, Indonesia, Malaya and Thailand.

Courses of action:

- I. The funds for these programmes should be increased.
- II. Special attention should be paid towards strengthening infrastructure in rural areas
- III. Private sectors should be encouraged to invest in mechanisation of agriculture and improvement in irrigation.

- (a) Only I and II follow.
- (b) Only II and III follow.
- (c) Only III follows.
- (d) Only I and III follow.
- (e) All the three follow.

Statement:

63. The fury of flooded rivers has been playing havoc with its destructive power.

Courses of action:

- I. There should be special reservoirs and tanks to store the run-off water that exceeds the bank capacity of the rivers.
- II. Farming or inhabiting should not be allowed near river banks.
- III. All the canals and channels should be properly cleaned before the onset of monsoon.

- (a) Only I and III follow.
- (b) Either I or II follows.
- (c) Only II and III follow.
- (d) None follows.
- (e) Only II follows.

Statement:

64. Sex and violence in films is corrupting and demoralizing the young minds.

Courses of action:

- I. More stress should be laid on values in school education.
- II. Sex and violence should not be shown on the silver screen in any way.
- III. Films that have hint of sex and violence should be given 'A' certificate by the censor.

- (a) Only I follows.
- (b) Only II follows.
- (c) Only III follows.
- (d) Either II or III follows.
- (e) Either I or III follows.

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Below is given a passage followed by several possible inferences which can be drawn from the facts stated in the passage. You have to examine each inference separately in the context of the passage and decide upon the degree of truth or falsity in it. Mark your answers:

- (a) if the inference is definitely true.
- (b) if probably true.
- (c) if doubtful as the data provided is inadequate.
- (d) if probably false.
- (e) if definitely false.

Time, as we know it, is a very recent invention. The modern time sense is hardly older than the United States. It is a byproduct of Industrialism—a sort of psychological analogue of synthetic perfumes and aniline dyes. Acutely aware of the smallest constituent particles of time as measured by clock-work and train arrivals and the revolutions of machines, industrialized man has, to a great extent lost the old awareness of time, of natural cosmic time, as it is measured out by sun and moon. One can live and work in a city or town without being aware of the daily march of the sun across the sky, without ever seeing the moon and the stars. The row of neon lights are our Milky Way and constellations. Even changes of seasons affect the townsman very little. He is the inhabitant of an artificial universe walled off from the world of nature. He has a new consciousness but it has been purchased at the expense of the old consciousness.

65. Time can be accurately measured just by looking at the sun or the moon.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

66. Industrialization has driven the modern man away from nature.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

67. Trains always arrive and depart very punctually.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

68. Rural areas have no neon lights.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

69. People in town have facilities to enable them to fight severe weather.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

70. Perfumes and colours cannot be made with chemicals.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (b) All the other instruments are used for measuring.
2. (e) This is the only bird among sea animals.
3. (b) All the others are colours of rainbow.
4. (d) All the others are connected with heart.
5. (a) All the others are food-grains.
6. (d) This is the only limb among others that is not connected with hand.
7. (b) All the others measure weight while this one measures distance.
8. (c) All the others are root vegetables.
9. (c) The items have effect and cause relationship.
11. (c) Both are similar activities but one is harsh the other is soft and pleasing.
12. (a) One is specially made for the safe keeping of the other.

13. (b) Both mean almost the same.
14. (c) The relationship is that of specific article and of the general category it belongs to.
15. (c) One is a product of the other.
16. (a) Both are different members of the same category.
17. (d) Two of the items are phases of the third one.
18. (a) One of the items helps in distinguishing between the other two.
19. (e) The three are different parts of year/day.
20. (c) One common activity is used for the other two.
21. (b) The three activities are inter-connected.
22. (c) 23. (c) 24. (b) 25. (d)

For solving the next set of questions, sort out common letters in words and match them with common codes.

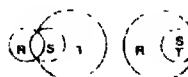
- | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 26. (b) | 27. (e) | 28. (a) | 29. (e) | 30. (d) |
| 31. (f) | 32. (c) | 33. (c) | 34. (d) | 35. (e) |
| 36. (a) | 37. (c) | 38. (a) | 39. (c) | 40. (d) |

The next set of questions are best answered by drawing diagrams of all the probable situations and then arriving at the fool proof conclusion. Let each item be represented by a circle irrespective of its size. Here are a few examples

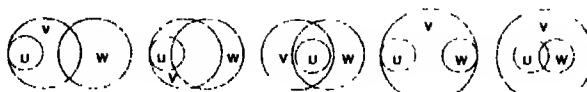
41. (b)



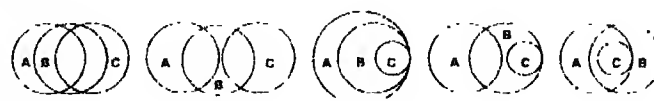
42. (a)



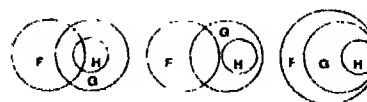
43. (c)



44. (c)



45. (b)



46. (a)



- | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 47. (d) | 48. (c) | 49. (d) | 50. (a) | 51. (c) |
| 52. (e) | 53. (d) | 54. (b) | 55. (e) | 56. (c) |
| 57. (e) | 58. (b) | 59. (d) | 60. (d) | 61. (b) |
| 62. (e) | 63. (a) | 64. (d) | 65. (d) | 66. (a) |
| 67. (c) | 68. (b) | 69. (a) | 70. (e) | |

The Examiner's Guess Questions

Q. Which is the world's biggest bank?

Ans. The merger of Mitsubishi Bank and Bank of Tokyo has created the world's biggest bank in terms of assets, totalling 77.5 trillion yen (\$724 billion). Tsuneo Wakai, chairman of Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Ltd., said that the bank would be a stabilising force in the nation's shaky banking system.

Q. Where was the summit of the G-7 social summit held recently?

Ans. Grand Palais of Lille in Northern France.

Q. When was the World Consumer Day held?

Ans. March 15, 1996

Q. When was the Commonwealth Day held?

Ans. March 11, 1996.

Q. To which summit held recently in Cairo was India not invited?

Ans. India was not invited to the anti-terrorism summit involving more than 30 countries, held in Cairo

Q. What is the level of India's external debt?

Ans. India's external debt, which was \$99.04 billion on March 31, 1995, declined to \$93.8 billion by September end. The share of concessional debt was 45%. Debt service ratio had improved from 35.25% in 1990-91 to 26.65% in 1994-95.

Q. Which new train connects the holy cities of the Sikhs, Amritsar and Nanded?

Ans. The Sachkhand Express was flagged off on March 3, 1996 and connects the Akal Takht, the highest spiritual seat of the Sikhs with Takht Sri Hazoor Sahib and Nanded in Maharashtra. The train covers the 1824 km journey in 34 hours.

Q. Which Indian architect has been invited to join the advisory group formed by the UN for its Conference on Human Settlement (HABITAT II)?

Ans. Well known Indian architect

Charles Correa is among 16 persons who have been selected by the UN Secretary General to advise him on the second UN Conference on Human Settlement to be held in Istanbul, Turkey, on June 3-4, 1996.

Q. What is the election slogan of Prime Minister Narasimha Rao?

Ans. "Give me stability, I'll give you prosperity", is the slogan of Prime Minister as he kicked off his poll campaign in his home constituency, Nandyal in Andhra Pradesh.

Q. Which airplane maker has recently filed for bankruptcy?

Ans. The 76 year-old Dutch airplane maker, Fokker, collapsed on March 15, 1996 after government loans ran out and neither the Korean industrial group Samsung nor the Chinese Aviation Industries came up with a takeover bid. The company filed for bankruptcy for two of its units: Aviation and Fokker Holding NV, employing more than 12,000 people.

Q. Which committee is reviewing India's deep sea fishing policy?

Ans. The P. Murari Committee. It has recommended cancellation of all permits to foreign fishing vessels to operate in India's economic zone.

Q. Which comet approaching the sun was visible recently from India?

Ans. Comet Hayakutake.

Q. Who have won this year's Birsa Munda Award for tribal service?

Ans. The Madhya Pradesh government has selected Heeralal Sharma and Gendalal Marsakole to share this year's Birsa Munda Award for tribal service. The award carries Rs 1 lakh and a plaque.

Q. Which institute has the government approved to oversee all quality related activities?

Ans. The Quality Council of India (QCI). The Union Cabinet has approved the setting up of QCI with a view to im-

proving the marketability of Indian goods and services.

Q. Which scientist has predicted that India could overtake China as the world's largest wheat producer?

Ans. Nobel laureate Norman Borlaug. He predicted this while addressing the 34th convocation of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi

Q. Which journalist has been awarded the K.S. Hegde Foundation Award?

Ans. Arun Shourie. He was given the award for 1995 for his contribution to journalism.

Q. Which person has been selected to receive the G.K. Reddy Memorial Award?

Ans. N Ravi, Editor of *The Hindu*. He has been selected for the 1995 award for his outstanding contribution to journalism.

Q. Who has won the 1995 Author of the Year Award?

Ans. Salman Rushdie, for his book, *The Moor's Last Sigh*. This is one of Britain's most prestigious book prize.

Q. Which research centre is to be set up by India, Russia, China and Iran?

Ans. The four countries have agreed to set up an Asian Foundation for Thermonuclear Studies (AFTS) for research and design of a thermal nuclear reactor for power generation.

Q. Which film has won the Golden Bear Award for best film in the Berlin Film Festival?

Ans. Sense and Sensibility, an American-British co-production directed by Ang Lee.

Q. Which country won the 9th Indira Gandhi Gold Cup International Hockey Tournament held in February 1996?

Ans. South Korea.

Q. What is the name of the disease that is popularly known as mad cow disease?

Ans. Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE).

APPOINTED; ELECTED ETC

Goran Persson He has been elected Prime Minister of Sweden

John Howard He has been elected Prime Minister of Australia

Mohammad Habibur Rahman Former Chief Justice of Bangladesh he has been appointed chief advisor holding the status of Prime Minister

Krishna Pal Singh He has been appointed Governor of Gujarat

MM Jacob He has been appointed Governor of Arunachal Pradesh

Chaudhry Randhir Singh He has been appointed Governor of Sikkim

David Gore Booth He is the new British High Commissioner to India

VK Shunglu He has been appointed Comptroller and Auditor General of India succeeding C G Somiah

RESIGNED

Ingvor Carlsson Swedish Prime Minister

Begum Khaleda Zia Prime Minister of

Bangladesh

Vakkom Purushothaman Lt Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

Jigme Singye Wangchuk King of Bhutan

M Primakov Russian Foreign Minister

Jozef Sestak Slovak Vice Foreign Minister

DIED

Nazim Banarsi Famous Urdu poet he died at the age of 87 in Varanasi

Tarun Kanti Ghosh Veteran Congress leader and Managing Director of Amrit Bazar Patrika and Jugantar publications, he died at the age of 72 in Calcutta

Shafi Inamdar Noted theatre actor and TV personality He died at the age of 47

Anil Chatterjee Noted actor and member of West Bengal Legislative Assembly

George Burns Legendary US comedian He died at the age of 100 in Los Angeles

20—The US government decides to go ahead with arms supply to Pakistan, authorised under the Brown Amendment

21—India successfully launches Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle PSLV-D3

23—Taiwan President Lee Teng Hui gets a resounding victory in the island's first direct presidential elections

—China debunks the issue of Kashmiri self determination as fraudulent, much to the discomfiture of Pakistan

24—Nine militants and two policemen are killed in Hazratbal encounter

25—Curfew is imposed in Hazratbal area as 30 militants are holed up in the complex for the second day Administration asks them to surrender

26—The three day Hazratbal crisis ends peacefully as militants vacate the shrine

27—President S D Sharma issues notification for the five-phase Lok Sabha elections

30—Bangladesh President Abdur Rahman Biswas dissolves Parliament and appoints caretaker government till elections to be arranged within 90 days

—In an encounter with the J & K police at Hazratbal Srinagar 22 activists of the JKLF including its president Shabir Siddique are killed

31—LTTE suicide squad attacks a Sri Lanka navy vessel killing 14 navy personnel and 35 of their own cadres

APRIL

2—Russia and Belarus sign a treaty binding the two States into a broad political and economic union

4—US Commerce Secretary Ron Brown and 32 other people aboard a military plane are killed in a plane crash in Croatia

EVENTS

MARCH

8—China fires 3 missiles off Taiwan waters in an attempt to influence elections in the island

—Chief of Naval Staff VS Shekhawat commences the first ever official visit by an Indian Naval Chief to China

11—LTTE separatists attack a police post in Sri Lanka, killing 38 people including 23 policemen

—Iran announces dropping of the death sentence on British writer Salman Rushdie, accused of blaspheming Islam in 'The Satanic Verses'

12—China begins military exercises in southern parts of Taiwan straits

13—Government invites four Kashmiri militant leaders for unconditional talks

14—Russia's Parliament votes that the breakup of the Soviet Union in 1991 was illegal and demands that steps be taken to restore the former superpower

15—US President Bill Clinton orders 2 aircraft carriers and 3 warships to move

within 100 miles off Taiwan straits amid mounting tension over Chinese military exercises

—Home Minister SB Chavan meets Kashmiri militant leaders in Delhi. It is decided to work together to build confidence and eliminate gun culture in the Valley

19—At least 150 people, many of them students celebrating the end of the school year, are killed when a fire engulfs a packed disco in Manila

—Election Commission announces that Lok Sabha elections are to be held in four phases on April 27, May 2, 7 and 21

—President S D Sharma returns two poll eve ordinances sought by the government

—Supreme Court upholds order on fodder scam and gives a green signal for CBI probe under the supervision of the Patna High Court

MILESTONES

M.S. Narasimhan: Eminent mathematician, who has been honoured with the fellowship of Royal Society of Britain. He is director of mathematics at the International Centre for Physics in Trieste in Italy. He was earlier a professor at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay.

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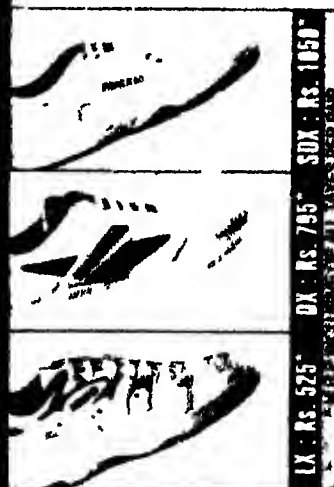


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THE COMPETITION

MASTER

From the Desk of the

Editor



Dear Masters,

Summer is a time of exams and most students would have written them already or are in the process of doing so. The schedule was prolonged this time because of the elections but we hope that you were able to prepare well.

What does one do after the exams? Many students waste their time doing nothing, while others collect diplomas in various short term courses. Others take up summer jobs.

However, the holiday months are also a time to prepare for the competitions ahead. Starting preparations rightaway will give you distinct advantage over others.

Apart from our thrust on civil services and other competitive exams, we will also continue our features on emerging careers. The management feature, which we started some time back, has been well appreciated. Reader Vikas Khokha from Noida says that 90 per cent of the questions asked during his interviews were dealt with in our mock interview published some issues back. He says he made it a point to practice the answers by himself and was able to get admission in some business schools.

We are happy for the success achieved by Vikas. And we are sure that you can learn from his example. During the holidays it may be better to develop skills you do not have rather than collect diplomas in things you might never use. It is a time of rejuvenation and also a time of planning the future. Judicious use of time will make you well prepared for the challenges ahead.

As for us, we will continue to publish informative articles and features to help you acquire the knowledge so essentially required these days.

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Government and Gimmicks

Elections reflect two things: they are a massive, collective exercise in a functional democracy. They also reveal a queer but seldom understood fact that the people who elect their representatives *surrender* their own right to govern. The people they elect to govern them are the very people who misgovern them but they can do nothing about it. They have to suffer them (literally) for five years, unless there is a 'quickie' election.

Despite this handicap, elections in a democracy serve an important function. They provide the voter, the common citizen, with an opportunity to seal the fate of political fakes. And here comes the role of the media, especially the electronic media which many a times promotes fakery.

A surge in new communications technology has put nearly all our people in a continuous, emotional contact with one another. Newspapers, radio, television, computers and satellites flood us with images and information, expanding daily experience, accelerating the tempos of life to jerking limits, and pressing people into closer relationships.

The sheer volume of information now crashing down upon us is staggering. Thanks to television, the daily experiences of the common man are brought down from the skies to city and village alike, to the farmer in

Rajasthan as well as Vice-Chancellor in Shimla and with an emotional intensity words cannot describe.

The eyes of millions of Indians, open to an outside world they have never seen, and their emotional responses, merge and form collective opinion.

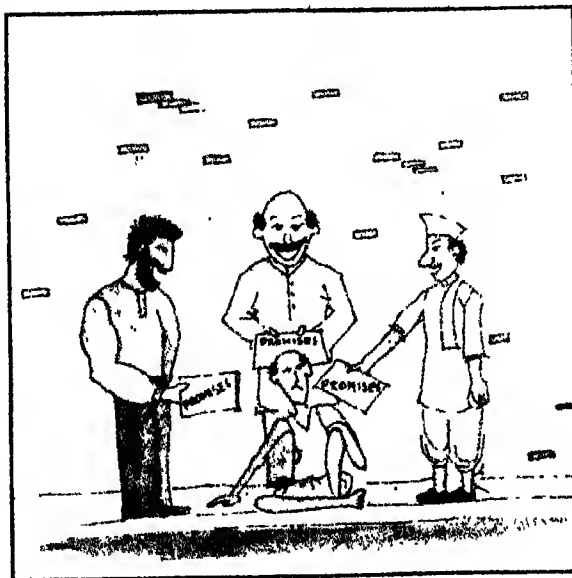
Masses are now finding their way to corridors of power. "I contend that behind contemporary political turmoil", says William H. McNeill, "the most fundamental change we are witnessing is the politicization of the world's peasantries."

Substitute common man with "peasantries" and the message comes clear. The common man is becoming equal to the elite.

As the network of communication spreads, social distances and inequalities shrink. Human interactions increase in a whirl of mass media and mass culture. A villager becomes

entwined in the affairs of a region or nation and he stands, in Daniel Bell's words, "on the threshold" of a new society. Public opinion is a constantly felt political presence which is already restricting the self-bestowed license of our rulers.

Popular gimmicks are not the same as popular government. Unpopular governments, gimmicks and all, are eventually thrown into the dustbin of history. An election is the biggest political purgatory.



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READERS' FORUM

The best two letters of the month, appearing in the box, have been awarded a prize of Rs 100 00 each. Readers are invited to send us their views on topics covered in this issue. The decision of the Editors will be final.

EDUCATION SYSTEM

Educational institutes are being set up all over the country with the sole aim of making money. They do not build individuals but merely prepare the students for exams. Rabindranath Tagore said, "Education should give an all-round personality in which the physical, intellectual, aesthetic and spiritual growth is harmonised into an integral process." Modern institutes, on the other hand, do not care for any of these but rely on gimmicks to rope in students in large numbers.

J Chandra Shukla Reddy
Nalgonda A P

Our faulty education system is one of the factors for growing unemployment since every degree holder wants a white collar job. The system cannot produce so many jobs rapidly. Students should therefore be taught some useful trade so that they can make their living and not depend on jobs.

Manisha Negi
New Delhi

Education makes a man polished. However half-hearted attempts are worse than no-education. Today, we have so many people lacking civil sense in spite of their having plenty of degrees. The reasons are obvious.

Arun Kumar
Nalanda Bihar

Present education system is creating disparities between rural youth and urban youth. A person in urban areas can get better facilities and better tutors. But rural youth cannot develop confidence because they cannot get good guidance. Your article has drawn the attention of our plan-

ners and it is hoped that they will reduce these inequalities.

Manoj Kumar Panda
Cuttack, Orissa

MANAGEMENT FEATURE

Your management features are excellent for preparing for MBA entrance exams. Many of the topics covered by you were asked in the tests and group discussions this year. The mock interview given by you was excellent and almost 90 per cent of the questions were asked in my actual interview. I have finally got admission in three schools and the *Competition Master* has guided me for my success. Your magazine is doing a wonderful job by publishing the management feature.

Vikas Khokha
Noida U P

I am preparing for MBA and I found your management feature extremely helpful. I am grateful to you for your practical approach in guiding the students.

Waseem Ahmad Ali
Aligarh U P

CINEMA AND WOMEN'S IMAGE

Credibility in films comes from a good story, a dramatic screenplay and an imaginative director. Many films lack one or the other. To cover this shortcoming, a cheap dance or a rape scene is put in. Heroines are shown in vulgar dresses. Due to this the image of women is declining. Film makers should understand that cheap images never make a film successful and they should concentrate on other aspects also.

K Jaiswal
Agra

SELLING THE NATION

I am in class IX and found your magazine very useful in understanding concepts like hawala, which people talk about but are not able to explain how it works. Your analysis of corruption was also very well explained. It is good that the scandal has been exposed so that cleaning can take place. We hope that the next government

EXAMINATION OF THE TUTOR

These days students are totally dependent on their tutor's notes. They learn the notes and guess questions and appear in the exams. In that sense, it is actually an examination of the tutor and not of the student. Our tutors are the ones who are competing through us. The only difference is that though students get the degrees, they often lack knowledge.

Titu Samaddar
24 Parganas, West Bengal

CONTROLLING INFLATION

With elections round-the-corner, the government had been controlling the inflation rate by squeezing money supply. This will only create depression and exploding of prices after the elections. Developmental activities will also be hampered. What purpose is served by such questionable economic policy? I would say that Dr Manmohan Singh has been very irresponsible to have done this to the nation. Long term methods of control of inflation should, instead, have been followed.

M R Bhatt
Bahraich, U P

will punish all those involved.

Mahesh Kumar
Secunderabad A P

We should vote for candidates who do not make any promises about honesty. We will not be disappointed if we do so, since nobody in politics is clean.

D Surendranath
Kuchana, Maharashtra

REQUEST TO READERS

May be you have appeared in some competitive exams recently. We shall be grateful if you could send us the question papers. All those sending the original question papers will be suitably compensated and the original papers will be returned.

—Editor

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H.D. Thoreau

PEOPLE read books for a queer variety of reasons. From the mundane motive of earning one's livelihood to the pleasing plane of emotion in exultation, reading has been the most possessive passion of people since the day the words and their compositions were first printed. Despite the onslaught of electronic or visual media and the countless channels churning out programmes of all hues and hypes, books continue to be the first love, friend and philosopher of all those who still trust and treasure them. The sublime smile on the faces of those who till the other day were steeped in ignorance and illiteracy, but have begun to read now, is a telling tribute to the inherent but salubrious strength of the printed words. Whenever a reference to 'reading for pleasure' is made, it is not the junk that comes to mind but the gems of books and other printed material.

Reading for pleasure is a purely personal privilege of the reader, when the spirit of the book and that of its reader communicate with each other, without any visible effort or extra-ordinary exertion, both mental or intellectual. Excitement, enjoyment and even thrill are different shades of responses that a book produces in its reader. Whatever other purposes or preferences one may have for reading a book or the other printed material, the strongest belief that holds good for ever

is that one should read only what one likes.

Since the readers' community comprises men and women having a whole lot of reasons to hold a book to read it, one of such motives is 'to be in the swim'. A book that becomes controversial before it hits the stands, not only becomes a hot cake for the people but also a matter of pride and exhibition. Even the possession of such a book carries the tag of being 'upto-date' or 'book lover'. Such an attitude towards a book is an insult to the book by the ignorant. There are people who set themselves down to read a book because they think it will do them good. They make a duty of it, a kind of penance instead of pleasure. Thus, they make a mockery of themselves as well as of the book. We only begin to get good from a book when our spirit and the book's spirit come together and we try to meet it as a friend.

All other motives to read a book are dictated by the instincts to enhance one's knowledge and better one's professional or vocational prospects. Pleasure in itself is such a reward of reading that only a few can experience it. Such a pleasure comes naturally when the reader finds himself lost in the aura that the words or phrases create for him. In the initial stages, we may go in for books on the advice of our teachers or elders. Some of their own may make a choice of their reading material. But if the reading fails to evoke a spontaneous glow of joy, there is something vital and vibrant that is lacking between the reader and his book. Either the reader has laid his

hands upon the book much earlier than desired or the choice has been faulty. Sometimes even cheap thrillers, comic, or detective stories and novels may offer a treasure of pleasure to the reader, which he may always cherish to remember in his more mature life later on.

Reading habits are formed in childhood when the magic of printed words is revealed to us. A teacher plays a sterling role in inculcating in us the desire to read and then form our own opinion about the book under reference. Such a reading of books is not confined to any syllabus or curriculum. With tact, the teacher should handle the delicate sensibilities of students and never try to ram things down their throats. Liking a book is like enjoying a dish. The taste of pudding lies in its eating and similarly the pleasure emanating from a book lies in its reading. No force or compulsion can make any type of reading pleasant or pleasing.

We read a book because we hope to enjoy it. All learning is boring but all reading is not dull or drab. One must handle a book with care and consideration. Reading is for pleasure, especially when one is not doing so for an examination, interview or professional requirement.

In cultural matters, it does not pay if we take anyone by the scruff (back) of the neck and compel him to read anything he does not want to. Pleasures of reading come naturally, though the nuances of such pleasures may vary in degree and depth.

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LEARN IT FROM THE LEADERS

ELECTIONS 1996

Tight-Rope

Walk

for

Indian

Politics

Indian elections bring people together like few events. It is a time of breaking with the past, a time of renewal. Like the dance of the Brahma, it is a reminder of time as it moves from creation to death and then back to creation again. Inevitably, the past must give way to the future.

The elections stand at that point in time when the old is dying but out of that springs forth a new beginning. Perhaps, because elections are so linked with India's belief of birth and death that democracy has taken root in this country. The people do not have any qualms about trashing the leaders who may have held the highest of positions: for out of that a new future is to be born.

The truth of this is evident now as the results of the 1996 elections show and the Congress is routed in much of the country. Brahma has moved once again.

The people have voted for change. But the hung Parliament has shown further polarisation of the electorate. The non-Congress parties have once again been given a chance to prove themselves. Whenever they have had such a chance in the past, they have ended up making fools of themselves. The electorate will not forgive them if they do the same today. Those who are jubilant in victory must remember that if they do not give a credible government, they too will be booted out.

Our cover story describes the elections of 1996 and discusses the results. It traces the story as it unfolded, from the announcement of the elections to the campaigns marked by absence of any major issues. It also discusses the manifestos, which nobody takes seriously any more. And the unlikely hero of this exercise—the irrepressible T.N. Seshan—who brought in some order to the chaotic business of influencing the voter.

Which government finally manages to come to power remains to be seen. But what seems certain is that the country will see a bitter power struggle in the days ahead. The power brokers will be very active and we only hope that the country is spared the spectacle of trading in MPs, that takes place as a result of a hung Parliament. It sure is a tight-rope walk for Indian politics. And one for the country as well.

The elections in India have an aura of a festival and are unlike any other in the world. The sheer magnitude of the exercise does not fail to amaze the outsider. The methods opted by parties—using parrots, camels and monkeys along with high tech video shows—add colour to the campaign. It is one time that leaders have to come out of the comfort of their offices and plunge into the heat and dust to impress the voters.

Many elements add colour to the exercise. The elections are witnessing a huge increase in the number of independents. Few actually win: only one out of 5,537 independent candidates won in 1991 and yet more than twice as many contested this time. Ballot papers in many constituencies became the size of newspapers. In one constituency in Tamil Nadu, people voted in a booklet.

The independents end up losing their deposits and only 12 managed to save it last time. Yet, they return in every election. This year, there were 14,274 candidates, out of which 11,105 were independents, giving a headache to the Election Commission besides confusing voters. The total number of independents could get only 3.92 per cent of the votes in 1991. Many are non-serious and get into the act to see their name in print. Suggestions have been given to increase the deposit of Rs 500, which is too low. If this was increased, perhaps it would deter the non-serious candidate.

There were also jokers in the pack, adding more colour

to the elections. A eunuch, Kali Hijra, was in the fray and promised better living conditions for India's third sex. A sweeper wanted to bring back opium cultivation. A Hare Krishna man promised to throw out all politicians over 45 years, if elected.

In Rajasthan, elections mean no drinking for two days prior to voting. In J&K, campaigning had to be done in bullet proof cars and every official on poll duty had a Rs 5 lakh insurance policy. Opinion surveys and astrologers were also in the act, predicting all kinds of outcomes.

Among the election symbols were coconut trees, buckets, cupboards, apples, umbrellas, ladies handbags, elephants and pencils. In P Chudambaram's constituency Sivaganga, bicycles were hung on trees to bring home the election symbol to voters.

This election was the first one to have a home page on the Internet. Some parties too had their page on the Net, but perhaps more to keep up appearances than anything else. But, the campaign, as a whole, remained low-tech. Parties relied on simple ways to carry their messages so that they were understood by the electorate. The election coverage, on the other hand, was high-tech, connected by satellite-based computerised information system, the Nicnet.

The elections also saw some new faces. Business tycoon Parvez Damania, fighting from Maharashtra, won the election. Another tycoon in the fray was Rita Singh of the Mescos group, who was fighting from Hapur in UP. Helicopters showered

leaflets to announce her election campaign. Nina Pillai, widow of the biscuit baron Rajan Pillai, fought from Kollam (Kerala) but lost. Cricketer Manoj Prabhakar fought from South Delhi on the Congress (Tiwari) platform. From Jamshedpur there was Nitesh Bhardwaj, who had acted as Krishna, as the BJP candidate. The celebrated Bandit Queen Phoolan Devi fought from Mirzapur and won. Hawala tainted ministers Kamal Nath and Balram Jakhar were represented by their wives or relatives. From Pilibhit it was Maneka Gandhi who made development a poll issue and won.

The 1996 Campaign

The campaign of 1996 will be remembered for being the most subdued ever. The hawala scandal had upset calculations of political parties and most were scared to collect political donations for fear of being exposed. Together with the Election Commission's firm control, candidates were not willing to take risks.

Election coverage on Satellite channels was popular with advertisers. However, the newspapers suffered, as political party advertising did not keep up in the press. Advertising agencies had a field day turning out posters and printed material. Cassettes carrying songs to the tunes of popular film songs made fun of corruption and other electoral issues. Serious issues like nuclear power, education and child labour were touched only in passing.

There was a search for

the third front. With regional groups gaining importance, it was hoped that some of them would combine with the National Front to provide a third front which had neither the Congress nor the BJP. In West Bengal, the Communist Party retained its hold and Jyoti Basu remained its unquestioned leader. The charismatic Laloo Prasad Yadav of Bihar was another such leader. Whether this front would be different from the alliances of the past, was however, anybody's guess.

Though many of the voters are poor and illiterate and could not be expected to know much about the business of government making, they have time and again showed maturity and voted perhaps like any advanced or educated electorate in the world. Wily politicians have often come to grief when they have tried to take the voters for granted and looked for votes thinking that the people can be fooled. This explains some of the dramatic turns in India's post independence history.

The results for the 1996 general elections proved this once again. The Congress did not have much to show for its five years in power, except for the new economic policy and this was blatantly for the rich and the privileged. Could the voter be expected to elect the Congress once again just for the economic policies?

There was in fact no other issue in this election. Voters found that they did not have real choices. If the Congress leaders were corrupt, those of other parties would probably do worse if they came to power.

Facts about Indian democracy

It is not for nothing that observers are overwhelmed by the Indian elections. The number of voters in 1996 general elections was about 600 million, which far exceeds the total population of the USA, the second largest democracy in the world.

Around 7.5 lakh polling stations are set up to conduct the general elections in India. Nearly 5 lakh personnel are employed to conduct the exercise as well as a large number of security staff.

There are 543 elected seats in the House. In 1991, over 8,000 people contested for these seats. The number of people in the fray in 1996 is an amazing 14,274.

Universal adult franchise was introduced in the first general election in 1952 soon after independence. The turnout increased from 38.8 per cent in the fifties to 55.8 per cent in the eighties. But the turnout for the 1996 elections fell, due to a low voter turnout of around 40 per cent in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. Only in West Bengal and the north-eastern States was the turnout between 60-70 per cent.

The minimum voting age was reduced from 21 to 18 by the 61st Constitution Amendment Act in 1989. This added another 35.7 million people to the electoral rolls.

er. This resulted in low voter turnout, showing that the average voter was unhappy with the state of affairs and the choices before him. Across northern and western India, from Hindi heartland States of Bihar, UP and Madhya Pradesh to Gujarat and Maharashtra, this trend was clearly visible.

The fact that in many states a little more than one-third of the people actually cast their votes shows a serious case of disenchantment and apathy towards the election process. The leaders have failed to come up to expectations and politics has become a cesspool.

This was natural to a very great extent because the ruling party threw up specimens of leaders who worked with

utter disregard for the people. For every Kamal Nath, who reportedly wanted to divert the course of an entire river to be able to build a house in Himachal, there was a Satish Sharma, who allegedly diverted a town's water supply for his cottage in the UP hills. For every Sheila Kaul, whose ministry allegedly allotted government houses for a consideration, there was a Sukh Ram who bungled on sugar imports. The Opposition was no better: people had given chances to non-Congress governments but none had survived their full terms. The voter was naturally disenchanted. Who to select from the current lot of politicians?

The trend also showed that there were no national issues. Thus, regional con-

cerns dominated the minds of the voters, especially in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. The government's emphasis on its wonderful economic policies seemed esoteric and far away. Each State had its own leader with considerable following, but who did not make much sense in another State. In such a situation, the idea of federalism will certainly gain ground.

The rise of regional parties will certainly change the character of Indian politics in times to come. States will demand greater autonomy, while no government at the Centre will be able to do without help from regional groups.

Manifestos

Manifestos of parties too lost their importance as they made tall promises and even the parties did not take them seriously. Manifestos were released at the last moment, more as a formality. However, the manifestos of the Congress and the BJP did provide some indications as to what might be expected.

The Congress hinged its re-election on the plank of stability. The pride of place was given to economy and the promise of a growth rate of 8-9 per cent. It talked of "rural structure transformation" and also of restructuring of public enterprises. Other things, like development of indigenous science and technology, investment in human capital, upgrading defence and so on were also mentioned. It promised to strengthen local governments and continue

reforms in the agriculture sector. As a statement of intention, it was an ideal document.

The BJP's 80-page manifesto promised to facilitate the construction of "a magnificent Ram Mandir" in Ayodhya. It talked of constitutional and electoral reforms, corruption, panchayati raj and administrative reforms. Inflation, unemployment and quality of life were also mentioned. In what may soothe businessmen, it committed itself to economic modernisation and decentralisation while also mentioning *swadeshi*. There was softening of stand on issues concerning minorities even as it wanted to introduce a uniform civil code. In many ways, the manifesto was not much different from that of the Congress.

The Janata Dal manifesto talked about elections in panchayats and also increased reservation keeping its social objectives in view. It said it would give priority to small industry and regulate MNC entry. On other issues, its intentions were not much different from other parties.

The manifestos showed that there was almost a political consensus of issues. The agenda of the parties was practically the same with some modifications, of course, but the country could look forward to similar policies being followed in broad areas, no matter which party came to power.

The decline of money power

India's elections have been marked by huge spending. This led to several evils. Increasingly, elections were funded by dirty money which led to compromising situation for the candidates once they were elected. The revelations that a minister, Kalpnath Rai, allegedly harboured underworld dons, resulted from the increasing amounts of money that candidates have had to borrow to fight elections.

The Supreme Court ruled that political parties which do not have regular audited and authenticated accounts were violating the law and they could not take advantage of the exemption which permits party expenditure on candidates beyond the ceiling. The Court ruled that the expenditure incurred by a party on a candidate's election campaign will have to fall within the ceiling prescribed by the Election Commission (EC). It empowered the EC to scrutinise the accounts of expenditure incurred by political parties during the elections.

Henceforth, only those political parties can take advantage of the provision exempting the expenditure incurred by political parties on their candidates which maintain books of accounts and file income tax returns. As per the verdict of the Court, candidates of parties not filing their income-tax returns would not be able to claim exemption from the poll expenditure ceiling in respect of the amount spent by their parties.

While stressing on the filing of income tax returns on the part of political parties, the Court pulled up the Central Government for not enforcing the mandatory provisions of law and it directed the Revenue Secretary to initiate inquiry against erring political parties.

Backed by the judgment, the EC was able to curb electoral malpractices. It warned all political parties and candidates to adhere to various provisions of expenditure on electioneering. On April 7, 1996, while directing all political parties to comply with the judgment, the EC set July 31, 1996 as the deadline for submitting details of expenditure incurred by them. Besides asking the Revenue Secretary to furnish details about the return of income, the Commission asked all political parties to declare their bank balance as on March 19, 1996 and also at the end of elections.

All expenditure incurred by parties for manifestos, pamphlets, posters and handbills, electronic media, advertisement in newspapers, magazines and souvenirs, cut-outs, hoardings, banners, flags, arches and gates etc was brought into the purview of electoral expenses. Details of travel expenses were also to be provided to the EC. It imposed a blanket ban on the use of State-owned aircraft and helicopters by any Chief Minister and political leader during the election period. The ban evoked some resentment from various corners, as earlier the Commission maintained that government aircraft should be made available to all parties and leaders

Tenth Lok Sabha

The tenth Lok Sabha, which has now passed into history, was the highest educated House since independence. It had the highest number of 395 graduate and post-graduate members, which is 77.27 per cent of the total seats, as against 72.22 per cent in the ninth Lok Sabha. The 245 graduates accounted for the largest group in the tenth Lok Sabha with a strength of 45.62 per cent as against 222 who accounted for 43.36 per cent in the previous Lok Sabha.

The tenth Lok Sabha had 20 members having doctoral degrees and other high qualifications as compared to 21 in the ninth and 10 in the eighth Lok Sabha. Another feature was the lowest ever representation of members in the under-matric category. They constituted 3.91 per cent as compared to 4.1 per cent previously. The highest ever percentage in this category was 28.7 in the third Lok Sabha.

equally on payment. The Prime Minister being covered by security regulations, was exempted from the ban but would have to make payment to defence and other concerned ministries.

With government not responding favourably to the request of the Election Commission, to raise the ceiling on expenditures from Rs 4.5 lakh to Rs 15 lakh, the pressure on the Commission increased. To ensure that political parties and candidates did not take any undue advantage of the existing provisions, the Commission appointed 500 of the 1600 central observers exclusively to look after the financial matters. It asked its observers to make an independent estimate of the item-wise expenditure incurred by the parties.

Election expenses have gone up from Rs 2 lakh in 1952 to Rs 2 crore in 1991. In the first elections, Rs 10.45 crore were spent on 489 MPs. This went up 15 times to Rs 154 crore on 511 MPs in 1991.

The actual figure taking in account total expenditure incurred by the parties may be around Rs 1,000 crore.

The 1996 elections will be remembered for a check on such malpractices and may even lead to a government which is not compromised. Thanks to the hawk-eyed Election Commission, parties and candidates were forced to spend less. While this resulted in a low key campaign, it also brought in some semblance of order to the election exercise.

Parties have had to stick to the limit of Rs 4.5 lakh in States like UP, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal. The limit was just Rs 60,000 in Lakshadweep. Candidates in Assam, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Tripura cannot spend more than Rs 4.15 lakh. This was the first time that parties seriously tried to control expenditure. The EC-appointed observers kept a tab on the expenditure made and there was no doubt that it meant

business. Last time, candidates had spent Rs 20 to Rs 25 lakh besides party expenditure.

The EC acted in an area where people said that no control was possible. By doing so, it proved that even a government department could do its job, if the will was strong enough.

EC's Strong Control

The strong Election Commission ensured free and fair polls and also earned international praise. Imran Khan went on record to say that Pakistan needed such a Commission for elections there. By imposing a strict code of conduct and, more important, imposing it relentlessly, the EC ensured that political parties fell in line. Parties could not abuse government machinery for electioneering and could not take decisions which could influence voters. Actions like appointments, announcing last moment grants and sanctioning projects were stopped. Sometimes the EC did exceed its brief, such as stopping export of cotton, but for the most part its actions prevented political parties from influencing voters by wrong methods.

The iron hand of the Election Commission ensured that parties followed the code of conduct. Allegations were made about violations and some were rejected. The Union Minister for Communications Sukh Ram was warned by the Commission against using official fax for

election purposes. In an unprecedented move, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) ignored a directive from minister Sukh Ram for awarding 21,000 km of optical fibre cable orders to ten companies. Instead, it sought advice from the Law Ministry whether complying with the minister's directive would infringe the model code of conduct.

For the first time, the EC also video-taped campaigns all over the country so that a record could be available of any violations by candidates. The EC's orders came to be feared by the parties and they had no option but to follow them strictly. For the first time, elections were not chaotic as they were in the past. Nor could parties exploit religion, caste and other differences in their quest for votes.

The credit for this must go to T.N. Seshan, who emerged as the Moses of the scene. His dramatic actions earned him critics but there was no denying that the man was effective. The independence of the EC is protected under Article 324 (5) of the Constitution. The CEC has the status of a Judge of the Supreme Court and Seshan used his position to do what no CEC had ever done before.

1996 Elections

The first phase of polling was held on April 27, 1996 for 150 Parliamentary seats and 532 Assembly seats. In a largely subdued and peaceful election, some stray incidences of violence were reported which necessitated repolling in 246 stations in

Andhra Pradesh, Assam and Haryana.

In the second phase on May 2, voting was held for 202 Lok Sabha seats. There were mild incidences of violence in Andhra Pradesh. However, polling in Bihar witnessed its usual characteristic booth capturing, snatching of ballot papers and violent incidences which claimed eight lives—down from the 50 lives lost in the 1991 elections. Except for Lakshadweep, where a record 87 per cent of the total 34,111 electorate

exercised their franchise, the voting in general maintained its usual level of 50-65 per cent. The lowest voter turnout was of 30-40% was recorded in Gujarat and Maharashtra. A sizeable section of the voters were denied voting right at many places as their name did not figure in the voter's list despite the fact that they carried the Voter's Identity Card.

The third phase was held on May 7 in which more than half of Bihar and West Bengal voted.

Assembly Poll Results

The tolerant Indian proved that nobody can take him for granted. He used his vote in the Assembly elections to punish those who had betrayed his trust and abused political power. The political maturity shown by voters in Assembly elections in Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Kerala, West Bengal and Pondicherry confirms this. Available results showed that voters have carefully assessed the performance of ruling parties in their States before casting their vote.

Nothing else explains the near-total rout of the AIADMK-Congress combine in Tamil Nadu, where Ms Jayalalitha had been ruling for the past five years like a queen. The voters, however, turned away from her as corruption had reached new heights in the State.

In Haryana, Bhajan Lal had to make an inglorious exit. The electorate returned Bansi Lal of the Haryana Vikas Party (HVP) with a resounding victory. In Kerala, voters opted for the Left and Democratic Front (LDF), pronouncing an unfavourable verdict on the performance of Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF). The voters of West Bengal returned the Marxist Left Front for a record fifth time, endorsing the performance of the Jyoti Basu government.

The election results show that voters will only reward good politics and good governance. It is the record that matters. The verdict is clear in the Assembly polls that those elected must deliver the goods and not get mired in politicking.

The last phase of the election will see the remaining constituencies of Jammu and Kashmir going to polls on May 23 and May 30, 1996. Elections in Jammu and Ladakh were held on May 7. Electioneering in J&K was spread because of terrorist problems in the State.

The verdict of the electorate in 1996 was clear: there was no single party that inspired confidence. The Congress ended up with fewer than 150 seats. It suffered its worse defeat since independence. It lost Kerala and its alliance with AIADMK in Tamil Nadu was routed. It also lost power in Assam and Haryana. The Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu and Kerala, Ms Jayalalitha and Mr A.K. Antony, respectively, accepted defeat and resigned.

The Congress had touched its nadir in 1977, in the post-Emergency period. Its tally at that time was 154 seats. This time, the score was even lower, showing complete loss of confidence of the people. Barring Orissa, Himachal Pradesh and to some extent Andhra Pradesh, the Congress sank everywhere. The BJP emerged as the single largest party but could not get absolute majority.

Following the defeat of the Congress, Prime Minister Rao and his cabinet submitted their resignation to the President on May 10, 1996. He, however, continued as caretaker PM till the new government was formed.

The Parliament was not only hung but deadlocked. Each party fell short of getting the 270 seats required to form

a government. The Congress initially said it would sit in the Opposition. That left BJP to look for partners. On May 10, 1996, the BJP staked its claim with the President to form the government with the assistance of some regional groups. NF/LF also put forward their claim with the assurance of outside support from Congress.

For how long the new government will survive is anybody's guess. The country has seen how power-sharing reduces the best of leaders. Mrs Indira Gandhi called such attempts as a "khichri" government which had no direction or ideology. The V.P. Singh circus saw the unleashing of caste forces and split the country in the name of equality, while the Chandrashekhar government could hardly do anything.

India has experimented with four non-Congress governments at the Centre, headed by Morarji Desai, Charan Singh, V.P. Singh and Chandrashekhar. Each was a fiasco in its own way. Some of these governments did not result from elections but from defections from the Congress and other parties. All of them collapsed before their time. The 1996 election has put Indian politics on the tight rope once again. Will the leaders live up to it this time?

If at all splinter groups with strong regional leaders form a government, how will infighting be prevented? Chances are that the groups will discredit themselves by their infighting, and should that happen, the country may have mid-term polls after 18 months to 2 years and the

Congress may just come back with the "there is no alternative" factor. This has happened in the past and does not seem an improbable scenario. In fact, the non-Congress governments may be jinxed in our country as none of them have been able to survive a full term.

The Congress may in fact be hoping that the Government formed would discredit itself by infighting so that it could return with a majority within a short time. Even though it has lost the election, the Congress party will remain to be the prime king-maker. No government will be able to survive without the support of the Congress party.

For the sake of the country, it is hoped that a stable government can result. Under the circumstances what will be the future of reforms or policy? Nobody really expects that there will be dramatic changes but it is expected that elements of socialism and more pro-poor programmes may be introduced. The new government will also have to deal with inflation, which has been artificially controlled over the past few months.

Among other things that must be high on the agenda of the new government should be the continuation of fight against corruption. All those involved in the hawala scandal should be charge-sheeted and brought to justice. Chandraswami should be protected no longer. Electoral reforms should be initiated so that the EC can function ever after T.N. Seshan. Finally, economic reform should be modified keeping more in tune with India's requirements. The country must try to bring down its ballooning debt. Emphasis has also to be placed on social sectors notably child labour and education. One of the major initiatives of the new government also has to be restoring peace in J&K region.

The hung Parliament will undoubtedly fuel debate about a national consensus government or a Presidential form of government. Perhaps the time has come to change to a better system of forming the government so that the country can have stability—an important ingredient for economic growth of the country.

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SPECIAL FEATURE

Impact of MNCs on Indian Economy

Multinational Corporations (MNCs) have attracted attention and debate all over the world. At one level they are merely business organisations, spreading out to markets across the world, offering goods and services that they are perfect in. At another, they are huge economic forces, influencing politics and stifling competition in the countries they operate in.

With India MNCs have had a love-hate relationship. After years of a closed economy, the doors were opened to foreign investment under the process of economic liberalisation. MNCs came in a big way, in sectors as diverse as foods and electronics. Suddenly, latest goods were made available in the country even as local businesses tied up for joint ventures. But the distrust of the foreigner never receded fully

After five years of a somewhat open economy, debate about MNCs is rife again. A paper by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) mentions certain drawbacks and questions whether uncontrolled entry of foreign companies is desirable. Drawing from experience of the past five years, the paper argues for regulating entry of MNCs.

In this feature we describe the impact of MNCs on our economy and the issues being raised. We give both sides to the argument in this heated debate. Coming as it does at the time of elections, will the debate result in reversal of economic policies?

MULTINATIONAL companies now dominate world economy. As economies have opened up, these large companies, which offer standardised products and services, have established their presence all over the world. There are now 37,000 MNCs with sales of \$ 5,500 billion. Many MNCs have turnovers more than the gross domestic product of scores of small and medium countries.

MNCs offer better products which they have perfected over years and in which have huge investments in the form of R&D has

gone in. They also use economies of scale which result in lower prices. This, together with the fact that poor countries need foreign investment to contribute in economic growth, have made it easier for MNCs to spread. On one hand developing countries often lack capital of their own; on the other MNCs need to expand their operations in as many countries as possible to achieve higher profits and market dominance.

Aiding MNCs is a policy objective of many international organisations, which are also financed by Western governments. Thus, international funding institutions like the IMF and the World Bank impose conditionalities to open the economies of the countries before giving loans. This is often called the 'crowbar' approach, implying opening by force. MNCs have been able to spread even in protected economies as a result of this approach.

Over the years MNCs have perfected not only their products and services but also marketing and management techniques. They are able to attract the best talent in a country and salaries are usually higher than the market rates.

At the same time, MNCs do attract distrust for several reasons. For one, they kill domestic industry. For another, since they have huge resources, they are able to influence government policy to their benefit. Large scale bribes are paid to gain entry. In smaller countries they exercise a big role in government decision-making. People also see them as impoverishing agents as profits are sent out of the countries, often in excess of the investments made.

MNCs in India

WHEN India became independent, many foreign companies existed and continued their presence. The country followed the policy of 'mixed economy',

which ensured that the public sector and the private sector including MNCs could co-exist. Entry was however restricted and there were many laws that regulated foreign capital.

In 1977, the Janata government threw out Coca Cola and IBM which became symbols of India's hostility to MNCs. But, other MNCs like Philips, Lever, Siemens and Suzuki continued to stay and prosper. By 1991 the government found that it had little foreign exchange to meet the import bill even of an essential item like oil. It approached the World Bank for a loan which imposed conditionalities such as opening the Indian economy. Foreign capital, thus, had to be allowed into the country to increase a sluggish growth.

With the opening up of the economy, foreign investment was wooed in a big way by India. Even States like Bengal, which had a communist government, started inviting foreign capital. Chief Ministers of other States took trips abroad to get foreigners interested in their States. Never before had the foreign investor wooed with such vigour.

MNCs saw India as a huge market. Its huge population and increasing incomes meant that it would be a ready market for their products. Many companies came to India in virtually every sector of the economy.

The foreign companies did bring in a breath of fresh air in the economy. Suzuki made a car that was superior to the outdated models that the country produced. Foreign banks set standards of service that the public sector banks could hardly match. The telecom sector saw technological upgradation. The Indian consumer had lived with little choice and monopolistic markets for too long and was only too happy to deal with foreign companies.

But, were these companies working in

the national interest? The distrust with the foreigner had remained since the country had faced years of colonial rule. The rule had started when the East India Company had landed on Indian shores with the intention of commerce. Gradually it ended up with complete domination. Was India going the same way again?

Critics of MNCs said that this was another form of colonialisation. The companies would impoverish the country by taking out capital. At first glance this indeed seemed the case. A company, Cargill Seeds, faced trouble because it was feared that it would take over the seeds business, the backbone of Indian agriculture, in which the country had achieved self reliance. The companies also seemed to be entering frivolous sectors like soft drinks and fried chicken which required no technology. But the sectors were highly profitable.

Another cause of distrust was the Bhopal disaster, where a multinational company, Union Carbide, was involved in an industrial accident but had backed out of its responsibility. Such an accident anywhere in the West would have seen huge legal suits and resulted in the closure of the company. Clearly, the MNC did not think that lives of Indian people were as valuable as that of a person in a developed country.

Impact of MNCs on Indian Economy

THE protected Indian economy could not grow as expected. The public sector did not reach the commanding heights of the economy except in inefficiency and corruption. Government domination in areas like power, transport and communications saw the least development. Nor was private industry interested in investing in areas with high gestation periods.

Even in areas where the private sector worked, the development was not quite satisfactory. The industry was protected and did not invest in R&D. Operating in near monopolistic situations, private companies did not care for customer satisfaction or develop new products.

This is exemplified by the car indus-

try. The car companies made no effort to improve the cars and were content in making the same model year after year, except with minor modifications. They continued flogging outdated technology whereas the world moved towards better fuel efficient cars and smaller models. Instead of developing models on its own, the industry started to tie up with foreign companies once again. The process would be repeated after every few years.

MNCs brought in competition and a customer orientation. They brought technology and new models of cars and other products. They also invested in infrastructure like power projects and telecommunications. They brought a global thinking based on quality. In India, they tied up with local partners in joint ventures.

They brought in new methods of work and culture. Indian businesses were parochial in their outlook. MNCs, on the other hand, were truly secular since they were work-oriented. In areas of power, transport and communications they brought technology which the country neither had nor could hope to develop on its own. But they had some serious charges against them.

Charges against MNCs

THE recent charges against MNCs have been listed in a paper *MNCs India Strategy Needs Rethinking* prepared by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). Its director general, Tarun Das, accused MNCs of wanting to make quick profits and stated that they were not interested in long term commitment. MNCs were interested in selling products by exporting them from their home countries rather than investing in manufacturing facilities here. They were, moreover, interested in bringing in obsolete technology, which had lost its utility abroad. While joint ventures were sought for to gain entry, the companies soon wanted to acquire controlling interest by buying out the Indian partners, killing the domestic industry in the process. Indian managers were not hired by them and they preferred to get people from abroad.

The paper was based on feedback from Indian companies on their experience with tie-ups with foreign companies. The entry

of MNCs did not result in meeting the objectives envisaged in many cases. The foreign companies preferred to buy outright Indian brands and companies and take over facilities created over the years. The list of Indian brands or companies taken over included such respected names like Godrej, Thums Up and Tata Oil Mill Co.

While the buy-outs stifled competition and made it easier for MNCs to launch their own products, there was also a danger that such takeovers would leave few Indian companies intact. According to Rahul Bajaj, at this rate, 80 per cent of the 200 private sector companies will end up being owned or controlled by MNCs. "There will be no Indian-owned companies left", he says.

MNCs found that taking over Indian companies gave them not only control over facilities and distribution networks, but also sizeable market shares. This was a short cut method of working. If they had to work afresh, it would take them years to build up the distribution channels and market shares.

In many cases Indian brands were killed once they changed hands. The brand Thums Up was allowed to die until recently by Coca Cola which had purchased it and so were some of Tata's soap brands which were taken over by Hindustan Lever. If conditions in the country were not favourable and the companies left the country, there would be no Indian industry to speak of. One viewpoint, thus, is that multinationals are killing Indian industry.

Though no political party is against foreign investment, it is being felt that there should be some regulation so that long term objectives are not lost. There must be some mechanism to ensure that MNCs do not operate in a manner which is harmful to the Indian business.

The MNCs respond by saying that they do not operate against Indian interests. There were disagreements with Indian partners because of differences in work styles and the inability of the partner to raise the huge resources required to establish brand presence in a country. The government could, however, take the experiences as a guide and evolve an in-

vestment policy in which the differences do not occur.

The Bombay Club

DEBATE on MNCs has revolved around the response of Indian industry. In the pre-liberalisation era, it complained of too many controls. Indeed, the license-raj ensured that companies could not produce things or expand production without permission from the government. But when rules were relaxed, the companies faced the entry of MNCs. Suddenly their very turf was threatened.

A group of businessmen then demanded a "level playing field" in which they were not discriminated against in favour of the foreign companies. This group came to be known as the "Bombay Club". Nothing much could be done about their demands, however, as the country had embarked on the process of economic reforms.

When the CII raised its doubts about MNCs, it was seen as the return of the Bombay Club's arguments. But the paper points out specific problems and is not totally against foreign investment. It wants safeguards that MNCs do not dominate in the joint ventures and that Indian managers are not sidelined. The paper calls for regulating foreign companies so that Indian business does not suffer.

The arguments are valid, but the criticisms cut both ways. For example, why should Indian industry be protected? During the years of protectionism our industry did not invest in R&D and were content in producing sub-standard products. Indian industry is as exploitative as any foreign company and hardly looked after the interests of managers or other employees.

So does the Indian industry deserve protection? In the case of joint ventures, if an Indian company making sugar and oil entered into a collaboration to make cars, surely after a while the foreign major would want to part ways and do business his way. In fact, there are many examples of India's business families entering into collaborations with foreign companies to make products they had never made before. Such collaborations would always be in danger

of being bogged down.

At the same time, there is truth in the argument that in our rush for foreign investments, India did not impose any conditionalities. The active wooing of foreign capital gave the impression that India was desperate for capital and the MNCs felt that India could be taken for granted. Other countries—notably China—imposed conditions and got investment within certain framed rules. India, on the contrary, does not have a foreign investment policy.

Merely salesmen

WITH the result, Indian businesses have been reduced to become mere sales agents for foreign brands. The car companies are selling foreign brands and the owner of Thums Up has been reduced to becoming a mere bottler. Foreign ideas are sold to us through Indianised shows on foreign television. The invasion of the

MNC has been complete.

Some companies which tried to take on MNCs are today discounted. BHEL became a competitive industry and could win many global tenders. C-DoT developed an indigenous exchange which worked successfully. But both organisations have been discounted in favour of MNCs. So enamoured are we of foreign companies that we have not used a mission based approach.

Japan has been able to work with MNCs by developing its own strengths. Japanese companies have retained their independence and developed their own products rather than enter into joint ventures for all kinds of goods. The East Asian economies do not owe their strengths to MNCs but in developing their own industry.

There is, thus, strength in the argument that India is being colonised again. The British killed its industry and insisted

Charges against MNCs...

- They dump obsolete technology and bring in outdated products and techniques. In some cases, polluting technologies which have been banned in the West, are imported.
- They focus on the short term and seek to generate quick profits rather than aim for long term development.
- They start 50:50 joint ventures but after reaching a minimum level they want to increase their stake to 51 per cent.
- They want to enter areas like soft drinks and fried chicken, which are not high priority areas.
- They send profits abroad which, over a period of time, are much more than the investment made.
- They appoint expatriate managers instead of Indian managers.
- They rely on heavy imports of components and products.
- They try to project as committed by involving themselves in community related projects but actually they are interested in profits only.
- They make products only for the rich and encourage disparities.

...and their defence

- Payback periods are usually very long and their commitment is long term.
- MNCs bring in latest equipment and models.
- Indian managers are also employed by MNCs.
- They enter core sectors like power, telecom and banking apart from consumer goods sector.
- They indigenise production and develop local vendors.
- If they involve in community projects, what is the harm?
- Investments are made within Indian laws.

on selling imported goods, which was resisted by the nationalists. Today, it is the MNCs that are doing much the same and want to get us hooked on what they make. If the British took over native resources, the MNCs are buying them out. The British wanted to reform the country, the MNCs are trying to change consumption patterns in favour of their products.

Nationalist voices

THE process of liberalisation has been accompanied by much exultation in the media. Newspapers have given the impression that it was the best thing to happen to India. Eminent economists have hailed the obtaining of loans as the major achievement of the government. The entry of MNCs is considered to be a good thing, long overdue.

The arrival of Coca Cola, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Reebok and Ford have been hailed by India's elite as the dawning of a new India. Those in the traditional mould suggested, in muted voices, that India was heading for another enslavement. The multinational invasion may be a subtle way of another colonisation. Together with Western cultural invasion, it represents a lethal combination for the country.

Critics say that what we are seeing today in the name of economic reforms is actually Western domination and erosion of our sovereignty. A stern warning was issued by the US Energy Secretary when the Enron project was called for review, though the country was within its rights to do so. This was seen as interference in our internal affairs.

There is another danger. The MNCs bring in imported components which have to be paid in foreign exchange. India faces a ballooning trade deficit and a heavy debt burden. If exports do not increase, the country will enter into a debt trap. It is also said that MNCs have brought in no path-breaking technology but made us consumers of products and cultural images handed out to us.

The question is: will the country be able to pay for the consumption we do today? Will we have to go to the World Bank for more loans to pay for the won-

derful cars and cellular phones that we buy today? Today, one fourth of our income from exports goes to pay for the interest payments of the loans taken. With sluggish exports, this percentage may increase.

The fears of domination by Western powers, through the economic route, are not without basis. It was natural that questions about *swadeshi* economics should have arisen, more so because the policies of the World Bank in opening economies and imposing reforms ended in failure in many other countries and have put them on paths of impoverishment.

Indian companies are not totally opposed to MNCs. What they have desired is a policy governing foreign investments. In some sectors like transport, communications and energy, MNCs could play a dominant role. In others they could play leading or supportive roles. In consumer goods their entry could be restricted.

However, when foreign capital comes to India, it does not do so out of noble objectives to develop infrastructure or to play supportive roles. It comes because it finds higher returns can be obtained as opposed to going to another country. Clearly, consumer goods industry offers the highest returns with least gestation periods and that is the reason that investments come in these sectors easily. For better or worse, the doors have been opened to MNCs and since this is an irreversible process, it is hoped that competition will only increase in the future. The slogan "Microchips, yes. Potato chips no", is unlikely to appeal to the MNCs or the consumers.

Indian and Foreign

While there is much debate about the role of MNCs, comparisons with Indian businesses cannot be ruled out. Foreign companies offer secular workplaces and a work culture. Indian companies, on the other hand, are parochial.

What was the need for remaining *swadeshi* in such a situation? When Mahatma Gandhi launched a campaign against foreign goods, it was because the country was exploited by the foreigner.

Much the same may be happening today, but there is no way that foreign goods can be kept out of the country. Economic isolation would do more harm than good, especially now, when modern technology is known to contribute to economic growth. What the country can do is to tie up foreign investments with obligations of export and bringing in latest technology so that the economy does not suffer.

Though economic nationalism is on the rise in India, political parties too have to come to terms with the multinational. The opposition parties at first criticised economic reforms and wanted to toe the *swadeshi* line. But, as the parties came in power in several States, they realised the importance of foreign capital.

The current debate is not whether MNCs should be banned altogether, but how far to liberalise and how much to depend on foreign investment. Almost all parties want foreign investment but the fear of foreign domination has not been dispelled.

True, MNCs have their drawbacks. But there is much to learn from them too. One of the lessons that Indian business can learn is to copy them and expand their own operations abroad. If foreign companies can come to India, why can't the successful Indian business houses invest abroad and sell their brand of goods and services?

Western multinationals have also been polishing up their act so that they do not attract the traditional charges. They want the world to know that they want customer satisfaction and will not indulge in unethical acts. High environmental standards are enforced by them and most want to become good corporate citizens.

India is neither anti-modernism nor anti-reform. What the current debate shows perhaps is the transition towards a global economy. The MNC is, thus, a reality which Indians will have to accept. Should India depend entirely on the MNC investment and technology or try to create an atmosphere to encourage self-reliance and give level playing field to local industry also in form of some protection. This is a matter for the next government to decide.

ARTICLE

Sustaining Industrial Growth

Industrial development is the back-bone of every growing economy. In almost every developing country agricultural sector is stagnant and tertiary sector is still in its infancy. Hence, it is the industrial growth which generally determines the economic growth rate of the economy. In other words, industrial growth rate is synonymous with the economic development. Rapidly growing economies of China and South Korea have been able to achieve outstanding rates of economic growth largely on their strength of industries. A well developed and supported industrial growth rate in these two countries has resulted in exceptionally high rate of growth of their economies. With India also following their footsteps in the recent years, the new Industrial Policy initiatives have cleared the way for a rapid growth of industries in India in the years to come.

Steady Growth

DURING the last about 15 years, industrial growth rate in India has been quite good. In a gradual but certain shift from the outlook of fifties, the Government has been able to liberalise, delicense, de-control and globalise the industries in India. With the growing international economic cooperation in the world no country can possibly survive in isolation. Co-operation essentially means exchange of concessions, reductions of trade barriers, development-oriented atmosphere and free movement of foreign exchange. Half-hearted attempts in this direction were made during the eighties but it was only in 1991 that discernible changes in government-policy were effected towards this direction.

The year 1991 may be termed as a watershed year for Industrial Policy in India. The changes in Industrial Policy, effected by the Rao Government in July, 1991, reduced the number of category of industries requiring industrial licencing to only

15. In other words, about 85 per cent of the industrial sector was completely delicensed. In addition, the categories of industries reserved for Public Sector were reduced to only six—strategic ones including atomic energy, coal, railways, minerals, oils etc. Private participation even in these six industries was not completely barred and could be considered and allowed on case to case basis.

The average industrial growth rate during the decade ending 1990-91 was 7.8 per cent, a percentage appreciably higher than the annual growth rate of the GDP during these ten years. But, during the year 1991-92, this growth rate slumped to 0.6 per cent, from 8.2 per cent during 1990-91. Several policy measures, including the ones mentioned above, were initiated during 1991 and were further strengthened in the subsequent years. As a result, the industrial growth rate started looking up again and rose to the levels of 2.3 per cent, 6.0 per cent and 8.6 per cent during the years from 1992-93 to 1994-95, respectively. The pre-budget Economic Survey 1995-96 places the industrial growth rate during April-September 1995 period at an encouraging 12 per cent.

Export Orientation

AN outstanding feature of the recent resurgence of industrial growth rate is that the efforts were made not only at encouraging the industrial growth rate but also ensuring a steady growth of exports. As most of the exports constitute goods manufactured by various industries, the increased production has been adequately matched by the spurt in export growth rate. During the past three years now, the growth rate of exports has been around 20 per cent per annum in dollar terms. Not only exports have risen impressively, but the imports have also risen appreciably above 20

per cent per year during these years, providing a strong support to the strengthening of industries. The Economic Survey places the growth rate of exports in dollar terms at 18.4 per cent during 1995-96 while the imports have been estimated to have grown by 22.9 per cent during the said year in dollar terms.

Several reforms were directed at achieving relaxation of foreign exchange regulations. The provisions of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA) have been toned down to be brought in tune with the new policy of globalisation. The government introduced a system of automatic approval of foreign investment upto 51 per cent of the equity. In 35 priority industries, which contribute about 50 per cent of value addition in the manufacturing, foreign technology agreements were permitted. The manufacture of readymade garments, a major contributor to India's exports which was till recently reserved for small scale/ancillary industries, was thrown open to large scale industries, subject to an investment limit of Rs 3 crore and an annual export obligation of 50 per cent of the production.

The above efforts have yielded good results in the form of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). During the year 1991, the total approvals worth Rs 534 crore for FDI were given by the government, which rose to Rs 10,820 crore during 9-month period from January to September, 1995. During the period between 1991 to September 1995, the government has approved a total of 3716 proposals for FDI amounting to Rs 33060 crore, out of which an actual inflow of Rs 10513 crore has already taken place. The foreign currency assets of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) increased to record US \$ 21 billion in March, 1995. This level, however, declined to US \$ 16.32 billion in January, 1996 and again rose to US \$ 20 billion by end of February, 1996. Exports

as percentage of GDP were at 8.9 per cent.

All the above changes have, on the one hand, increased the export orientation of the industrial output, and on the other, improved the technology by importing sizeable quantities of capital goods. In addition, new work culture and improved managerial practices have also stormed the industrial scenario of India.

Improved Public Sector

OF late, one of the areas of concern has been the Public Sector. The Industrial Policy statement of 1991 had tried to bring in efficiency, accountability and independence among the managers of PSUs. One of the steps was gradual privatisation of the public sector. This step aims at incorporating the spirit of healthy competition, market discipline and increased accountability. It was decided to disinvest a part of government equity in selected PSUs. Upto the end of 1995, the disinvestment had taken place in 40 PSUs and a total sum of Rs 10,500 crore has already been disinvested. Madras Refineries Ltd, Cochin Refineries Ltd, Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd, Bharat Earth Movers Ltd, Andrew Yule Ltd, etc are some of the PSUs in respect of which heavy disinvestment has already taken place and in all these cases the disinvestment is over 35 per cent of their equity. As on March 31, 1996 Madras Refineries Ltd had maximum disinvestment with 48.20 per cent of its equity disinvested. HMT, IOC, IPCL, HPCL, ITDC, IDBI, SAIL and ONGC are among other prominent PSUs whose equity has been disinvested.

Another aspect of PSU reform was the introduction of MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) system. Under the MoU system, the management of the concerned PSU enters into MoU with the government vide which the government gives a completely free hand to the said PSU to achieve the projected physical and financial targets as per the MoU. During the year 1994-95, 99 PSUs signed the MoUs. Self-appraisals from 95 PSUs were received by the Union Government. The department of Public Enterprises

has found that 39 out of the above 95 PSUs have been rated as excellent, 26 very good and only two have been graded as poor. Examination of evaluation of the remaining 16 is still to be done by the department.

To meet the contingency arising out of the policy of disinvestment, the government set up a National Renewal Fund (NRF). The main aim of setting up the NRF was to provide a social safety net for the PSU workers and to protect their interests. Set up in February 1992, NRF proposed to assist the employees/workers in training and development, redeployment and counselling. NRF also had the provision to meet the demand of PSUs arising out of need for payment of ex-gratia to the workers of PSUs seeking voluntary retirement. As per one estimate, 75000 workers have already opted for voluntary retirement. A sum of Rs 803.5 crore was released from the NRF for above purposes during 1993-94 and 1994-95. Moreover, the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies Act (SICA) were extended to the PSUs in December, 1992. As a result, a sick PSU can now be referred to the BIFR (Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction). Upto end of December, 1995, 59 cases of Central PSUs and 79 cases of State PSUs were registered with BIFR. In 29 cases rehabilitation plans have been sanctioned.

Small Scale Sector

SMAALL Scale Sector is a very important sector which contributes around 40 per cent of the total industrial output in India and about 34 per cent of the total exports. It also provides very large quantum of employment and during the year 1994-95 SSI sector provided employment to 146.5 lakh persons. With a view to provide incentives and to strengthen this sector, several policy measures were taken in the recent years. Several fiscal incentives have been announced for SSI units in the form of ISO certification, infrastructure development and excise concessions. A National Equity Fund has been introduced to support expansion, modernisation and upgradation of technology by SSI sector units. Another such fund is being managed

by the Small Industrial Development Bank of India (SIDBI), called Technology Development and Modernisation Fund, under which assistance is provided to the needy SSI units for adoption of improved and upgraded technology.

SSI units are also provided with adequate credit facilities. It forms part of the priority-sector lending targets fixed for Banks. 40 per cent of the advances to the SSI sector are kept reserved for tiny sector and village and cottage industries. Upto Rs 50 lakh projects are sanctioned under the Single-Window Scheme of SIDBI. Moreover, there are 836 products which are exclusively reserved for the SSI sector. Government also has a price preference scheme for the products manufactured by this sector. In addition, several programmes are there for vendor development, quality awareness and pollution control. Total number of units in this category was 25.75 lakh upto the end of December, 1995.

Conclusion

DURING the past about 4 years now, industrial growth has been good and promises to be even better in the years to follow. This has been largely possible because of bold policy measures adopted by the government. A lot more is required to be done to make the industrial growth rate self-sustaining for a longer period of time. Institutional and environmental bottlenecks in the easy availability of credit, particularly to the SSI sector, is to be ensured. It must also be ensured that the political changes do not reduce the momentum provided to this vital sector of the economy. The results achieved in the form of output and exports are outstanding, but efforts should be made to import labour-intensive technologies, rather than blindly following the West. This would also help in achieving the objective of more employment generation, along with rapid industrial development in the country. Industries need still more strengthening to ensure that the growth rate in the decades to come not only rises but sustains itself, undeterred by the cyclical and external fluctuations.

THIS MONTH YESTERDAY

June: Before and After Independence

Before Independence

June has been quite an eventful month in our pre-independence history. In this section, after recapitulating some of the events which happened in the first two decades of the century, we shall have a perusal on some epoch-making events pertaining to Bhagat Singh and the formation of Interim Government.

Changing mood of the Indians towards the English, in the early decades of the century, was well-depicted during the months of June. While the first decade of the century witnessed some antagonism between the two, the second decade saw the building up of some healthy association between the two. For instance, on June 13, 1908, Khudiram Bose was sentenced to death for 'murdering' Mrs and Miss Kennedy, and on June 9, 1909, Ganesh Savarkar was sentenced to *Kala Pani* for writing poems aimed at 'waging war against Government'. On the other hand, in the second decade, Emperor conferred Knighthood on Rabindra Nath Tagore and Mahatma Gandhi got *Kaiser-i-Hind* Medal on June 3, 1915. Madan Mohan Malaviya was elected to Viceregal Council on June 3, 1919. On June 10, 1917, Mahatma Gandhi became member of the Committee appointed to inquire into the disputes relating with the production of Indigo.

Bhagat Singh

June of 1929 has been quite significant in the life of Bhagat Singh. On June 6, 1929, the historic joint statement of Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt was read by Asaf Ali. It said that "... the bomb was thrown to awaken the English from their dreams ...". Subsequently, on June 12, 1929, the Judgement on 'Assembly Bomb' case was pronounced and Bhagat Singh was sentenced to

transportation for life. It was on June 15, 1929 that Bhagat Singh started his epic hunger strike in jail for the 'Jail reforms'.

Interim Government

The desk for the Interim Government was finally cleared on June 16, 1946, when the Viceroy invited 14 Indians to join the Interim Government. The invitation was extended to six members of Congress, five of League and three of other minorities (Sikh—1, Indian Christian—1 and Parsee—1). While All India Hindu Mahasabha condemned the Plan, Mahatma Gandhi laid four demands regarding constitution of Interim Government... stressing that 'Congress must have right to nominate its Quota'.

After Independence

In the post independent history of India the month of June has been marked by two black spots, 'Clamping of Emergency' and 'Operation Bluestar'. In this section we shall have glance on the happenings just preceding the main event.

Clamping of Emergency

It almost began on June 12, 1975, with the decision of Allahabad High Court which set aside the election of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The Judgement, which stayed operation for 20 days, led to an unprecedented turmoil in India. For instance, on June 13, while 'Opposition leaders' staged *Dharna* to seek Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's resignation, thousands of others staged demonstration asking Prime Minister to continue.

On June 15, 1975, on one hand Janata Front decided to hold Anti-Prime Minister Rally, on the other hand Bihar Pradesh Youth Congress decided to

observe Indira Gandhi Solidarity Week from June 21. Amidst mounting pro-anti-demonstrations, Mrs Indira Gandhi, on June 20, approached Supreme Court against Allahabad High Court decision. On June 24, 1975 Mrs Gandhi was granted conditional stay, making her entitled to participate in the proceedings of Parliament as Prime Minister but 'without voting rights'. On the next day while the five non-CPI opposition parties decided to launch Nationwide agitation from June 29, the Union Government launched tirade against smugglers by issuing Ordinances. Finally, owing to 'threat to security from internal disturbances' on June 26, 1975, President declared 'Emergency' and it was marked with the arrest of over 600 persons from all over the country.

Operation Bluestar

Intermittent firing incidences in Amritsar took grave turn on June 1, 1984, when one of the heaviest exchanges of fire was witnessed between security forces and the men inside the Golden Temple. Sensing the gravity of the situation, a 32-hour curfew was clamped in the Amritsar. However, much of crucial decisions on the turbulent Punjab crisis came on June 2, 1984, when President Giani Zail Singh's scheduled visit to Shimla was postponed and Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi made a nationwide broadcast to share her concern over the problem. It was on the same day that Army was called out in Punjab and Lt Gen Ranjit Singh Dayal took over as Advisor (Security) to the Punjab Governor. Subsequently the Operation began with the clamping of 60 hours curfew in Punjab and Chandigarh, during which militants were flushed out of 44 places of worship, including 5 Temples and 1 Mosque.

DEBATE; DISCUSSION

Can Machines Replace Man?

The possibility of a machine as intelligent as man has always existed in the human imagination. With the advent of computers and artificial intelligence, this possibility has acquired a distinct reality. Science fiction has, of course, been one step ahead, conjuring visions of machines ruling the world and humans subjugated to animal-like existence

Indeed, robots have been deployed in many industries and seem to have their own intelligence. Are we moving towards a machine-dominated society? When the IBM computer, Deep Blue, took on Garry Kasparov, it certainly seemed that computers were becoming smarter. In fact, it may be only a matter of time that a machine is developed that will beat the reigning champion

In this issue, we discuss whether intelligent machines will replace man. Is the scenario painted by science fiction soon to become a reality?

Mr A Man's inventiveness knows no bounds. In every field, newer and smarter things have been made. Computers are now available that can do things much faster and more efficiently than any human. Robots have been developed that can do things almost like humans. They are not only replacing workers in factories but redefining how work is done in organisations. For example, it required an army of accountants and auditors to make the balance sheet of a large organisation, now one or two persons can do it with the help of computers. I think the time is not far when computers will take over many of our jobs and will replace man if not fully, at least to a very great extent. Already this is happening. Computers do many things these days, including playing chess. Slowly machines are going to replace men in many spheres of activity. People are going to lose jobs and already unemployment rate in the country is alarming.

Mr B I do not agree with you. While it is true that computers are doing many things and are getting smarter, they can never replace man. Even if they become smarter, they will always require man to run them. They cannot do jobs on their own. Rather than take away jobs, they have helped economies to grow and created new jobs in a way that could not be imagined. In some areas, fewer people may be required to do the same job but at the same time opportunities have been created that have actually helped increased employment. So, it is wrong to say that computers have taken away jobs and have replaced men. In banks for example, computers have helped work to be performed efficiently but the number of jobs has not reduced. On the contrary, systems experts are required which has increased the number of people employed. Thus, there is a shift in the kind of jobs that are available. Man has been freed from doing routine, repetitive jobs which are delegated to machines. He can use his mind on more creative pursuits instead. A bank accountant can provide service faster to customers as the routine task of updating ledgers is done by computers. In addition, some totally new industries have opened up. In India, the software industry has really picked up and jobs have been created in thousands. Unemployment, thus, is not due to computers. Let us remember that a computer is only a tool and cannot replace man.

Mr C I think the fear arises when we see computers performing tasks which we find amazing. When a computer plays chess, we are overwhelmed and think that the machine has intelligence of its own, because chess requires a great amount of intelligence. But actually this may not be so. A computer

works as commanded by the software which is loaded on it. The software in turn may have millions of chess positions in its database. A computer merely compares the positions in its memory and selects the best move according to the rules of the software loaded on it. A clever software will be able to win games, whereas a bad software will not. So it is wrong to talk about the machine's intelligence. What is amazing is that a human mind can match and still win against a computer which can analyse 50 billion chess moves in 3 minutes. A human mind could only analyse 4 or 5 moves in that time. Yet, a man who plays by the 'feel' of the game is able to win against these massive odds. Now that is real intelligence. A computer is only as smart as the software it has. Even if the computer wins—as it is bound to in the future—it hardly proves anything. In the words of Bill Gates, "It shouldn't offend human dignity any more than the realisation that a person with binoculars can see distant objects better than a person without binoculars."

Mr D If we look at it this way then there is no fear that machines will replace man. A robot will be as smart as the software given to it. Will it be able to take decisions on its own? In fact, getting it to do things that are not programmed into it, will be impossible. The ultimate decisions to be taken will still be man's. Science fiction writers portray the scenario that machines will be able to control man. To my mind, this is impossible. Man has a certain curiosity that makes him try out new things. He will look at things and try to discover how they work. This has led to inventions and discoveries. It is doubtful that a robot will ever develop that kind of intelligence. Can it look at the moon and want to develop a rocket to

go to it? Can it look at itself and want to reproduce? Thus, the fear that machines will ever replace man is misplaced.

Mr A But let us not forget that computers do things faster and more efficiently. If more and more powerful computers are installed, fewer people will be needed. This may be all right for Western countries where population is limited. But for a country like India, we need labour intensive technologies that are able to use the manpower available. There is no point following the West blindly. This was the point of the unions that have opposed computerisation in banks and other organisations. They were worried that the workers would lose their jobs and the fears were not misplaced. Today people are losing jobs because of automation. In developed countries there are factories where cars can be produced almost entirely by machines. While productivity per worker has increased because of the machines, a lot of jobs have been lost.

Mr E That is one of the most backward ideas ever heard. Trade unions in India have behaved in a most irresponsible way when it came to automation. They have opposed computers based on their lack of knowledge and also to protect their own positions. Now they have allowed computers to come in but no jobs have been lost. Their only achievement has been to get allowance for employees to use computers, when actually it has made the job easier for them. Moreover, though productivity per worker has increased and fewer workers may be required to do certain jobs, employment has increased because volumes have increased. For example, now more people want to invest money because of better services offered, thanks to computers. The information society has also opened up jobs in other areas. Machines have not led to loss in jobs at a macro-level but resulted in more jobs being created. We cannot stay with outdated manual technology simply for the sake of keeping people

busy. The challenge is to look for more job opportunities that new technology throws up.

Mr B India has remained backward because of our distrust of new technology. It is also wrong to say that computers are better for developed nations and not for us as they replace labour. In fact, computers help in economic development of a country. A higher growth rate will result in more jobs. Simply remaining backward in the hope of protecting jobs will never achieve anything. I would also like to say that the quality of work life has also improved with smart machines. A worker need not be present at places where certain hazardous processes are taking place: a robot can handle the work at such a work station. The fear of machines replacing man arises because we think that the machines have intelligence of their own. Indeed, there is a race to build Artificial Intelligence (AI). Can we have a "digital biology", for instance, a small self-reproducing program that can be put on the Internet, which may evolve by itself and begin to do things on its own? Or maybe a digital brain that does things on its own? At present these things may sound futuristic but nobody knows whether this can actually happen. If it does, there may be a possibility of machines dominating mankind.

Mr C That is still a futuristic scenario. But, even then I doubt that AI can match human ingenuity. If computer viruses were created which could reproduce on their own, so were programs to detect and destroy them. Similarly, AI could be countered too, if it gets out of hand. But the real fear of the people is not AI but whether computers could take away their jobs. Since India has seen how computers assist workers, I don't think anybody has fears today that their jobs will be taken away. And since they have led to faster service in most organisations, everybody wants to work with them.

Mr D I think that the fear of people

being replaced by computers has arisen because of lack of understanding and knowledge. The argument is similar to the time of the industrial revolution. At that time, people thought that machines would replace man. They did, but different jobs were created and the revolution actually fuelled economic growth. There was a shift in jobs. The same thing is happening now. The information revolution will also cause shift in jobs. Though the machines are smarter and do new things, they can never replace man. Machines are invented to help man do something in a better manner. The smart computers are also something that man will use to do his work. That a machine will do his work and replace him is a wrong idea. Like the industrial revolution, the revolution taking place today will help man achieve his ends.

Mr E If you look at the evolution of computers you find that smaller machines and laptops were developed keeping in view the needs of people. AI will also be developed if it finds any practical use. Rather than replacing man, it will also remain to be a tool for man. I think it is important to keep that in perspective. Let us not go back to the times of the industrial revolution and repeat the arguments that people raised at that time. Development is a law of nature. We will continue thinking of newer things and smarter machines. Each of these will make life easier for man and help him reach new frontiers. Man has something more in him, and that is consciousness. Even when he sleeps, his mind is at work. But if you switch off a computer, it just becomes a dead object. So, even though computers may mimic humans, they remain only machines. They have raw powers of computation but do they have a sense of what is right or wrong? Of happiness and sorrow? Of doing things on their own? Let us not forget that a computer is like a railway engine. It was created to help man, not to replace him.

Spark Yourself to Success

If you want to get a thing done, give it to a busy person, is a sage suggestion of efficiency experts. Contrarily, one who has lots of time at his disposal, is unbusy.

It is an interesting fact of psychology that such a person is invariably a sluggard and a shirker. His work is a burden to him. He derives no satisfaction from it. He feels always below par. Above all, he has no energy, no enthusiasm.

If you suffer from that always-tired syndrome, there may be many good causes for it. Since there is no sense in making life more difficult and create conditions favourable to failure, it is prudent to get into the thick of the matter and emerge from the doldrums.

If you are listless, your physical and mental energy runs low, you are devoid of zest and vitality and you feel that there is a sense of emptiness in your life, you have to tap hidden sources of energy inside you.

Before you try to understand the causes and free yourself from lassitude, shed the fallacy that work tires you. It does not. It stimulates you.

Think of the day when you were languid and listless. It was surely one of the days when you did not have much to do. Now recall the day when you felt there were exhaustless wells of energy inside you. It was the day when you did a lot of work, accomplished more than you usually do. You were like a dynamo, a store-house of energy on two legs.

Genuine fatigue does overtake all of us but there is a difference between being tired and *imagining* that we are tired. When we *feel* tired, we *act* tired. When we look energetic, we *act* energetic. Emotions affect our energy-level and vice-versa.

Zest

How can one put zen and zest into life? How can one pronounce from face: Here goes success?

The remedy for these conditions lies in rearrangement of your sitting position, in home, office and elsewhere. The idea is to effect the maximum *economy* in energy in your movements. These should be natural, and where possible, pleasant and pleasurable.

Your aim should be to reduce the strain which causes tiredness. Whether that strain is on the eyes, ears, or muscles being used unnaturally, it will outrage your sensibilities, causing fatigue. Correction is in your hands.

Another form of fatigue comes from repeated activity. You have been writing for hours. Your fingers feel numb and lifeless. Fatigue has travelled to your eyes as well. This is best countered by *changing* the activity. Shift from writing to reading and you find your eyes and fingers are relaxed.

Does that mean that complete breaking off work during working hours is justifiable? The answer is no. That would be poor self-management. Our object should be to rest only the tired member of the organism, not the entire organism. The tired member will lose its fatigue quickly.

There is another reason why work should not be broken off. During the break, efficiency goes down. It takes you time to hit your stride and reach the peak of efficiency again. The warming up time is thus a stretch of wasteful effort. The best way of recouping your flagging zen, however, is to tap the deeper wells of energy inside you. This is done by going on with the work at hand.

Feats

Think of people who perform miraculous feats of endurance. What about the person who cycles non-stop for seventy-two hours, or the one who swims for an equal number of hours? Why do not they get tired? They tap the hidden sources of energy in them by refusing to stop work.

Many of us have experienced it in our day-to-day work. This is called the phenomenon of the "second wind" or the "second steam".

You are working. You feel tired. You keep on working and then comes the transformation. Fatigue vanishes. Your work becomes smoother, easier, pleasurable and more effective. It is a characteristic of the "second wind or steam". You need not give up at the end of the first steam. There is the second, third, even fourth wind.

The body runs not on food alone, but also on oxygen, which is essential to life. People who work indoors are apt to suffer from a rather stale atmosphere. It is wise to see that rooms are ventilated and are not so hot that you feel languid and heavy. Fumes and tobacco smoke should not be allowed to become a menace to health. Often a person who feels tired will feel better after a short walk in the fresh air.

When fatigue is associated with backache, aching shoulders, pains in the legs, headaches or cramps, it is time to ask: "Am I working in a position that is uncomfortable?" A chair and table may be at heights that do not suit. One can raise oneself with a cushion, or lower oneself on to another chair, or raise the table, if only with four pads of newspaper.

Right Load

The person whose load is more avoidable such as the good organiser who organises too much, has to learn to say "No" and mean it. "I am sorry; I cannot take on any more at present."

Some people have something very like a compulsion to take on too many activities. Their motives then need a little inspection. Guilt may play a part. We wish, as it were, to punish ourselves for something (often something that is not really bad at all) and so we drive ourselves like taskmasters. The need to be important is also a common motive in overdoing things.

Do you hate work? A plain, ugly question; but there are times when it needs to be asked. Shirkers and grouchers are immature and usually thoroughly miserable people. The way to face a job is to get on with it as well as possible and take one's wages with self-respect. If your answer is not "I hate my job" but "I hate work", it is time to try to adjust one's attitude to life itself.

No Moaning

It is no use looking for the perfect, totally congenial job, in which one is doing exactly what suits one and is working only with kind, charming people, in exactly the right working conditions. Let's not be infantile. A grown person should be able to put up with small unpleasantness without undue moaning.

Work off Feelings

We may be able to fight back; change our job; cultivate indifference to the humiliating person, try to remedy some fault that leads us into humiliating situations, work off our feelings.

We may be able to consider why the other person has been so unpleasant, and, by examining the person's psychology and motives, understand the unimportance of their nasty attitude, and so on.

A great deal of what we think is "overwork", is in fact "over-worry". It is not usually *effort* that kills people, but *strain*.

Many people who always feel tired are in fact not so much overworked as out of harmony with themselves.

It is conceivable, speaking intellectually and philosophically, that they may be right. But the practical outcome is that they make themselves and other people miserable.

There are many different interpretations of life that work satisfactorily for different people. It is possible to submit to the teachings of some sage to work out one's own philosophy of life.

It is highly desirable to find some sort of working philosophy about life that will serve for our own spiritual requirements. People who feel that everything is futile often need, quite simply, to use their brains a little more.

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

How Aeroplanes Fly?

All conventional airplanes take off and climb because the propulsive system (engine- or turbine-driven propeller or turbine-generated jet) produces a forward thrust substantially in excess of the combined ground and total air-resistance effects. The resultant forward motion induces airflow over wings, which (because of cross-section shape and inclination) generates upward forces in excess of the total weight of the machine. Once in level, forward flight at uniform speed, the horizontal forces (thrust and drag) are equal and opposite, and the vertical forces (lift and weight) are also in equilibrium.

Unconventional aircraft, such as short-takeoff and -landing, or vertical-takeoff and -landing vehicles, make partial or complete use of vertical-thrust devices (jets or rotating wings) to get them off the ground quickly into steep or vertical climb.

Once off the ground and at an altitude to clear all obstacles safely, STOL airplanes (and some VTOL types) look like and behave like conventional airplanes. The ability of these aircraft to make steep takeoffs or landings on short runways (e.g., in congested areas) is derived from an ability to deflect downward a part of the airstream from propellers or jets. This deflection is accomplished by the use of slots and flaps or by partial vertical rotation of power plants and even rotation of entire wing systems.

VTOL aircraft rise vertically from rest without use of runways of any kind. This rise has been achieved experimentally by deflecting powerful vertical jets downward by a system of vanes in the jet exhaust or by rotating complete turbine-jet engines to a vertical position. The most successful and most widely used VTOL machine, however,

is the helicopter, which derives its direct lift (and also its forward propulsion) from a system of rotating wings.

All aircraft-propulsion systems, excluding solid or liquid rocket propulsion, depend upon accelerating a mass of ambient air to a velocity greater than the forward or upward speed of the aircraft, then discharging it rearward or downward. By increasing the momentum (mass times velocity) of the airstream, an equal but opposite momentum is applied to the aircraft. The resultant forward force is equal to the mass of air moved, multiplied by its acceleration.

The methods used to accelerate air for propulsion are piston-engine or turbine-driven screw propellers (or helicopter rotors) or gas-turbine generated jets.

Airflow over movable control surfaces (elevators, ailerons, flaps, and rudder) supplies the forces necessary to change flight attitudes in conventional aircraft. Elevators and rudder are normally designed as part of the tail assembly (empennage). The former control vertical motions of the plane (climb or descent), and the rudder provides directional control (yaw) as in a surface ship. Ailerons are opposite-acting trailing-edge flaps mounted near wing tips. They control the lateral attitude (roll) of the aircraft. Inboard trailing-edge flaps lowered synchronously greatly increase lift and drag and are used principally to assist takeoff and to reduce speed in landing.

Air speed for a given flight path and control configuration is a function of thrust and is controlled by engine-throttle setting. Maximum available thrust is usually applied during takeoff and climb but is reduced in free flight as drag decreases. Reverse thrust, developed either by chang-

ing propeller-blade pitch from positive to negative angles or by introducing reversing vanes into jet-engine discharge nozzles, is used to retard speed on the ground and to shorten roll distance (in conjunction with wheel brakes) after touchdown. For airplanes that land at very high speeds, small parachutes are sometimes deployed from the tail of the fuselage after landing to assist in shortening the roll-out.

The pilot's basic equipment (which evolved very early and is still in use in small civilian airplanes and in most single-seat military fighters) consists of a control lever, called a stick, and rudder bar (or pedals) for flight control and ignition switch and throttle for engine control. Fore-and-aft movement of the stick moves elevators up or down to change pitch attitude. Lateral stick movements change aileron positions to produce roll. The stick is mounted on a so-called universal-type joint so that intermediate angular positions provide the coordinated pitch and roll control necessary to make properly banked turns. In larger airplanes (military or civilian types), a handwheel mounted on a movable column (or yoke) replaces the simple stick. Fore-and-aft motion of the column activates elevators as before; rotation of the wheel controls roll. Foot pedals connected to the rudder provide directional control in the air. They may also be interconnected with a steerable nose (or tail) wheel and with wheel brakes to assist in manoeuvring on the ground.

Most nonconventional aircraft (except true helicopters) also employ aerodynamic controls of this character. True helicopters obtain their lift, propulsion, stability, and control from the manipulation of blade angles and tilt of their rotor systems. The

general appearance and arrangement of the pilot's cockpit is similar to that of a conventional airplane of comparable size. Manipulation of the controls, however, is quite different and requires special training.

As aircraft grew in size, control principles remained the same, but the forces necessary to manipulate them soon exceeded the average pilot's physical capabilities. This situation necessitated the use of some sort of hydraulic or electric servo mechanism to multiply the pilot's effort. This system is inserted between the pilot's control movements and the aerodynamic control surfaces and operates in a way similar to automobile power steering and power brakes. An electronic feedback mechanism is provided to give the pilot the "feel" of flight (*i.e.*, to give the pilot an immediate sense of aircraft response to his intentions).

Aerodynamic principles

A stream of air blowing squarely against a flat plate exerts a dynamic pressure on the plate more or less proportional to its velocity. The faster the wind, the higher the pressure. This phenomenon may be easily demonstrated by holding a hand out of the window of a moving automobile. By inclining the hand with respect to the wind, upward or downward forces are experienced, roughly proportional to the angle of inclination and the speed of the vehicle.

Flat plates (or human hands) are poor aerodynamic shapes. They are not streamlined; that is, air does not flow smoothly around them. Because of this, irregular pressures and vortices (eddies) create a turbulent region behind them, which absorbs considerable energy and results in high resistance, or drag. Also, the vertical reactions (lift) are irregular, unstable, and relatively small. The ratio of lift to drag is low.

Lift can be improved by putting a small degree of curvature in a thin, flat plate presented edgewise to the wind. The flow of air at small inclinations becomes smoother. Up to a certain angle of attack,

the turbulence is small, the lift increases, and the lift-to-drag ratio improves. Beyond the critical angle, however, the smooth flow breaks down, and the lift-to-drag ratio deteriorates rapidly.

In considering composite aerodynamic bodies (*e.g.*, an airplane with body, wings, tail surfaces, and other protuberances), drag comes, first, from the friction arising from motion through the air and the resulting turbulence and, second, from the horizontal component of the lifting force developed by the wing. Total drag is the sum of the two.

Aerodynamic research in wind tunnels early indicated that, by rounding and thickening the forward third of a curved plate and providing a smooth, curved taper to a sharp rear (trailing) edge, lift goes up and drag goes down. The lift-to-drag ratio is considerably increased. Such shapes are called airfoils. Many thousands of variations in thickness and in contour have been tested and the changes in lift and drag with angle of attack recorded. These tabulations provide the design data for airplane wings, propeller blades, helicopter rotor blades, and other streamlined bodies. There is no one best shape for all conditions. Each application requires detailed analysis to select the optimum shape to produce the desired aerodynamic performance.

It was first assumed that lift results from direct air pressure against the undersurface of a wing, as with kites, for this reason, fabric covering was applied to the lower wing surface only, leaving the structural framing exposed on top. Research soon revealed, however, that approximately two-thirds of the upward reaction comes from negative air pressure (suction) over the top of a wing and about one-third from the undersurface. Simple covering over the top surfaces greatly improved flight efficiency. Monoplanes have been almost universally adopted over multiplane configurations (*i.e.*, biplanes, triplanes, etc.) because airflow interference between adjacent planes reduces overall efficiency.

The planform of airfoils as aircraft

wings also affects their overall characteristics. The pressure distribution with respect to span (length of wing) varies with aspect ratio, defined as the ratio of the span to the chord, the chord being the length of a straight line drawn from the leading to the trailing edge. The pressure distribution also varies with wing taper, with tip shape, and from interference effects between wing and fuselage or from other protuberances or attachments. There are many variables and many variations. Generally speaking, short-span, very tapered, low aspect-ratio (4-5 to 1) wings are associated with fast, highly manoeuvrable aircraft; long-span, high aspect ratios of 12-15 to 1 appear in long-range, relatively slow, high-altitude craft and in very efficient sailplanes.

Most airfoils of interest to aircraft designers are inherently unstable fore and aft; *i.e.*, in pitch. The resultant upward pressures at normal angles of attack act as a centre of lift somewhat behind the centre of gravity of the section. Because these forces are offset from the centre of gravity, a negative moment (turning effect) is produced and tends to force the nose of the aircraft down. To compensate, a stabilizing force must be applied somewhere to create an equal and opposite moment. Canard (duck-like) configurations with a small lifting surface forward of the wing have been tried, but the normal arrangement is to provide a small horizontal surface (stabilizer) well aft of the main wing system (*i.e.*, at the tail of the aircraft) designed so that its lift reaction is downward to counteract the negative pitching moment of the wing. Pitch control is obtained by means of movable flaps (elevators) hinged to the trailing edge of the stabilizer.

Tailless designs have been tried in an attempt to reduce overall drag, but they have never been widely adopted. It is possible to compensate for the negative-pitching characteristic by altering wing planform (such as by twist or greatly increased sweepback), but the overall disadvantages generally outweigh the improvement.

CAREER

Career in Law

Qualifications in law offer attractive career avenues today. Judiciary has a very important role to play in India, which has further increased the importance of legal education. Traditionally, education in law has been considered a prestigious professional qualification along with medical science and engineering. Education in management science is the latest addition to this list. Legal education offers varied openings and gone are the days when a law graduate could only go in for legal practice or be a Judge by joining judicial services.

Prospects

LL.B. (Bachelor of Law) is the basic degree in legal education and offers many openings. Legal practice is one of the most common ones. A law graduate, after completing LL.B., can get himself/herself enlisted in the local/State/Central Bar Council to start private practice. In absence of any practical and procedural training offered by most of the universities, the lawyers have to first get a little bit of experience in consultation with some senior advocate before starting the work independently. Depending upon the aptitude and specialisation, one could start practicing in civil or criminal cases, or even both. Several law graduates prefer to specialise in only one of the above aspects. Today, the number of lawyers who specialise and practice in tax laws including the income tax, wealth tax and commercial law is increasing. Professionals dealing exclusively with the labour laws are also on the rise. Another dimension added to the conventional legal practice is setting up of legal firms/companies or even consultancies. There are several legal consultancies today which specialise

in the matters like patents, trademarks, sales tax or even foreign exchange. The number of such consultancies and the services offered by them are increasing rapidly in the metropolitan and industrial cities.

Another opening in legal profession is the service with the Government or corporate sector. State judicial services is one avenue to which recruitment is made by way of a competitive examination conducted by the State Public Service Commissions. Minimum academic qualification is a degree in law and the selected candidates are appointed as Sub-Judge or Munsif. Such candidates may rise to the levels of Chief Judicial Magistrate, District and Sessions Judge or even as Judge of the High Court, depending upon the seniority and vacancies. Even after practising as a lawyer for a specified number of years, one can directly be appointed as an Additional District and Sessions Judge or even a Judge in the High Court, provided that in the opinion of the Governor/President, the candidate is considered to be suitable to hold such position.

In addition, Government sector also provides job opportunities to the law graduates as Public Prosecutors, Solicitors, Deputy/Additional Advocate Generals or even Advocate Generals. Most of the State governments hold the competitive examination for selection of the Public Prosecutors/District Attorneys. At times, it is also held along with the Judicial Service Examination. However, the Advocate Generals are appointed by the Governor of the State. In addition, the Government also needs certain Law Officers, Legal Assistants and Legal Advisers in many departments. Labour Officers in the Labour Departments of the State Governments are

also law graduates with specialisation in labour laws. Recruitment to all posts is made through the Public Service Commissions and in some cases where recruitment is done regularly and the number of candidates is large, a competitive examination is organised.

Various Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), both in the States as well as at the Centre, need several Law Officers, Legal Assistants and even Managers (Legal Services). Law graduates with specialisation in labour laws or company laws are preferred in such cases. Law graduates are also required by the JAG (Judge Advocate General) Branch of Army Headquarters for handling the legal matters, Court Martials etc. Law professionals in this case are selected as Commissioned Officers in the regular ranks. But they have to undergo Services Selection Board (SSB) interview for judging their suitability for service in the Armed Forces. The SSB interview is a comprehensive test of one's personality in which leadership traits of the person concerned are judged.

One of the latest and most lucrative career options is offered to the Law Professionals by the recent boom in trade and industry. The corporate sector is fraught with many legal hitches, offered by the environment, government competitors as well as other institutional factors. Hence, legal management, which was hitherto considered part of Personnel Management, has emerged as an independent managerial function and most of the forward looking companies now have their independent legal departments, usually headed by a Vice-President or a General Manager. With the policy of liberalisation and globalisation of Indian economy, the Corporate sector is expected to face much

more legal complexities which would increase the demand for legal professionals manifold. Even the big multi-national corporations coming to India have to depend heavily on their legal department for various clearances, forex matters and labour laws.

Teaching is yet another option. Law graduates with good percentage and a good aptitude and taste for teaching, may also go in for LL.M (Postgraduations) or even D.L. or LL.D (Doctorate). The teaching job can be taken up in any University or Institute offering law courses to students.

Academic Study

Conventionally, LL.B study is taken up after doing graduation in any stream. The three years LL.B course, after graduation, enables a candidate to become a law professional. Hence the Bar Council of India has now decided to introduce a five-year integrated law programme after 10 + 2 level. After completion of this programme, a candidate would be awarded a degree of LL.B. Many Universities/Institutions in India have already switched over to this new system. Among these are: Mohan Lal Sukhadia University, Udaipur, Kerala University, Osmania University, Calcutta University, Madurai Kamraj University, Symobsis Society's Law College at Pune, Guru Nanak Dev University Amritsar, M.D. University Rohtak, Calicut University, Pondicherry University, Andhra University, Shivaji University Kolhapur, Nagpur University and Jodhpur University.

The admission procedure and rules adopted by various Universities are different. Some of the universities have also started the method of having an entrance examination for LL.B Courses, but this practice is not very common. The minimum requirement of marks at the 10 + 2/ graduation level is also different.

One of the most prestigious degrees in law is given by the National Law School Bangalore, sponsored by the Bar Council of India. It is a five-year integrated

programme taken up after 10 + 2 level. The admission is granted on the basis of an entrance test. To be eligible, a candidate must have secured at least 50 per cent marks in any discipline at 10 + 2 level and should not be more than 20 years of age. National Law School (NLS) has a few examination centres for entrance examination at places like Delhi, Calcutta, Bangalore and Pune. The entrance examination is objective type in nature and is only in English medium. The questions invariably cover the areas like Reasoning, General Awareness, Numerical Aptitude, Legal Aptitude and Preliminary Political Science.

NLS offers one of the best LL.B degrees in the country. Even post graduate courses are offered at the School. Teaching is not restricted to the conventional class-room methods only and adopts innovative ways to make the study of law more practical and interesting. Methods like case studies, mock court procedures and mock trials are resorted to with a view to make the understanding easy and observing. Most of the law graduates of NLS, who wish to take up salaried jobs, are picked up by many private concerns by way of campus interviews. Even those who decide to go in for Government jobs or private practice, have been doing exceptionally well.

The aspiring candidates must prepare well on the aspects like General Awareness, Reasoning, Numerical Aptitude and basic knowledge of Political Science and Indian Polity. All the above information is available in plenty in "The Competition Master" month after month. Aspirants are advised to start early and continue to be in touch even after their selection, particularly if they wish to go in for competitive examinations after the LL.B.

In addition to LL.B degree, many universities and institutes also offer other diploma courses in several disciplines of law, including Administrative Law, International Law, Labour Laws, Tax Laws and Corporate Laws. These diplomas may be useful in specialising in any one of the

above aspects, particularly for MBAs, Chartered Accountants, Company Secretaries and other such professionals. A graduate degree in law with any of the above professional degrees is of great advantage, particularly when seeking a good job in the corporate sector.

There are many universities which offer law degrees by correspondence or open education system. Normally such degrees are called BGL (Bachelor of General Laws), BAL (Bachelor of Academic Law) or even LL.B (Academic). Annamalai University, Madurai Kamraj University, Kurukshetra University and Jammu University are some of the universities offering such law degrees. But this must be understood clearly that such degrees do not entitle anyone to practice in any court of law and such law graduates may be eligible for doing legal and related work in the corporate sector only.

The opportunities available to law graduates are ample and a person with such a degree can straightaway go in for legal practice or seek a Government or Corporate job. After an initial struggle for a few years, during which time the lawyers try to understand the procedural and practical aspects, private practice becomes highly paying and one can choose the courts at Sub-Division/Taluka/Tehsil Level, District Level, State Level or even at the Central Level (Supreme Court). But, one thing must be kept in mind. One has to have a certain type of aptitude to be successful in legal profession. The candidates willing to do well must cultivate the required aptitude. Such an aptitude includes good communication skills—both written as well as oral—good listening and understanding capability, regular reading and having general awareness of happenings in the country as well as around the world. The technological development has also influenced the legal profession where computers have made deep inroads in a big way and in the years to come, computers will be increasingly used in legal profession. Hence, a good knack of the handling computers is also a must.

Descriptive Questions

Privatisation of Public Sector

Q. Privatisation of the Public Sector is the only solution for speeding up India's economic growth. Give two arguments in favour and two arguments against the statement.

Argument in favour of the statement

1. Gone are the days when nationalisation was thought to be the only panacea for all our socio-economic ills. With thousands of crores stuck up in the mire of mismanagement, inefficiency and corruption, the crying need of the hour is that sooner, rather than later, India should go in for privatisation of its public sector. There are no two opinions on the hard fact that most of the public sector units have been in the red for long and a dreadful drain on the national exchequer.

2. If some right thinking people feel that privatisation of India's public sector is the only solution to accelerate its economic growth, they should not be dismissed with sneers and snides. Once the governments, both at the Centre as well as in the States, wash their hands off the recurring losses in the public sector and go the whole hog for privatisation, the enormous funds thus released could be used for more profitable purposes. With more money available, the governments can invest them in the infrastructure sectors like transport, tele-communications, technical education and the like. Besides, enough funds can be pumped into employment generating schemes for the poor in the rural as well as urban areas. With better management and marketing in private hands, the public sector units can give the much needed boost to India's economic growth.

Arguments against the statement

1. The advocates of privatisation of the public sector should not be guided only by the glitter of market economy but look to the fate of such a course of action followed in other socialist countries. There the public sector units, handed over to private entrepreneurs in the flush of moment, have almost gone bankrupt now, threatening large-scale unemployment and social unrest. If nationalisation was not the magic wand, even privatisation of public sector is no incantation, the singing of which can bring about rapid economic growth. The remedy may prove worse than the disease. Prudence rather than panic should make us sit up to analyse the causes that have brought ridicule to the concept of public sector in the service of the people. Public sector without too much of bureaucratisation and political interference can still deliver the goods and help in speeding up India's economic growth along with realising the goal of economic equality and independence for the masses.

2. In order to set the things right, public sector units should be made autonomous with experts and specialists manning different departments. After making some fundamental changes and innovations, the principle of accountability, for all acts of omission and commission, should be strictly enforced without fear or favour. There is no short cut to economic growth, and the least of all is the privatisation of India's public sector as is being cried and clamoured now.

One World Government

Q. Suppose there is only one government all over the world. Give at least

three consequences if such a thing happens.

Ans. Having suffered the agony and anguish that armed conflicts between warring nations bring in their train, the establishment of only one government all over the world has been the ideal of all mankind since ages. The dream, most cherished and chased, both by the victors as well as the vanquished, has been the elimination of all wars, big and small, coercions and confrontations. If the formation of a World Government becomes a ringing reality, the consequences of such a development cannot but be pleasant and productive in every walk of life.

The face of present-day world, infected with fear, jealousy and economic inequalities, would change for the better. Disputes, instead of being settled in the battle-field, would be resolved across the negotiating table and all decisions taken after due deliberations by the feuding factions, would be enforced in letter and spirit by the World Government. Instead of blood, goodwill among member-States of the World Government would flow from one end to the other.

The goal of disarmament, that has eluded a comprehensive compromise among nations, especially the developed ones, would be achieved without much polemics and piffle. With sufficient finances becoming available as a result of significant reduction in wasteful expenditure on arms, ammunition, armed forces and the like, the problems of hunger, disease, illiteracy, terrorism, drug trafficking etc, afflicting a vast majority of man-kind, would be effectively and expeditiously looked after and tackled.

Movement of people of all hues and nationalities from one country to the other

without visas, passports and unnecessary hassles, would bring them nearer to one another. Thus, the gospel "Brotherhood of man and Fatherhood of God" as preached and practised by the saints and sages, saviours and scholars, pacifists and prophets, would become a roaring reality. With the dawn of 'One World Government', an era of hope and hilarity, trust and transparency would usher in with a bang and blessing.

Eradication of poverty from India

Q. Suggest three effective measures for eradication of poverty from India. Explain how each of the measures suggested by you will be effective.

Ans. Poverty in India is not a fiction but a fearful fact of life. The ugly face of poverty continues to haunt and harry those who are never tired of projecting themselves as the most firm friends of the deprived and dispossessed and the relentless fighters against poverty. Notwithstanding the pompous display of plans, policies and programmes to alleviate, rather eradicate poverty from India, the scourge like a scar remains firmly conspicuous by its presence. The following measures, if taken with full solemnity and seriousness can still retrieve the sordid situation and help eradicate poverty from India in stages, if not at one go.

Whatever our political or religious leanings may be, there is no denying the fact that population and poverty complement as well as supplement each other in the most telling manner. The perpetuation of poverty in India is the direct fallout of its burgeoning population. Unless some hard and realistic steps are taken to curb the growing menace of numbers, most of the poverty-alleviation programmes would come to naught. Therefore, the need of the hour is to attack the problems of poverty and population simultaneously by accelerating economic growth and development, universalisation of education and if need be, by imposing the limit of children each family can have. There are no soft op-

tions on the population front.

Various anti-poverty programmes that have been in operation for some years now, need a thorough review and revision because they seem to have failed to produce the desired results. Instead of doling out money to the poor as one time assistance, conditions for self-employment for those who are landless, jobless and helpless should be given priority. The progress of all such schemes, as are aimed to eradicate poverty, should be monitored from the Panchayat level to the national level. The opening of vocational schools, technical institutes and the like should be given preference so that local talent and manpower could be brought within their sphere and made able to earn their livelihood by pursuing some useful art, craft or trade.

Agrarian or land reforms that have defied implementation, should be carried out vigorously and the surplus land distributed among the poor and the landless. All development works at the village or slum levels should be handed over to the Panchayats or other elected bodies. Policy of prohibition should be introduced with care, caution and consideration, both for the affected as well as the State exchequer

Critical review of Indian Constitution

Q. Some people feel that there is an urgent need to critically review the Constitution of India so as to make it an efficient instrument for providing democracy and social and economic equality. Explain and substantiate your views by giving indications of specific modifications you will like to bring about.

Ans. Having made more than seventy amendments during the past forty years or so, the time has come to have a close look at the Indian Constitution and consider the need to critically review, revise or even rewrite it to realise the goals of real democracy, socio-economic equality and social justice. With the democratic founda-

tions still fragile, social fabric being torn and politics getting highly commercialised and criminalised, there is hardly any alibi left now of not undertaking an intense and thorough scrutiny of the Constitution. The time to have piece-meal or patch-work operation is over because at the moment we have reached such a pass as does not allow us to shut our eyes to the all round drift and decay that the Indian polity has developed. Some of the following modifications could be considered for incorporation in the Constitution to make it an instrument of real democracy and socio-economic equality.

Before each election, either to the State assembly or the Lok Sabha, the formation of a neutral care-taker government, at least one month before such election, should be provided for. If the experts feel that Presidential form of government is more suitable to Indian conditions, this possibility or change-over should also be given a serious thought. The grass-roots level institutions, like Panchayats, Block Samitis, Nagar Palikas, etc should be vested with enough funds and powers to carry out their responsibilities independently.

The right to work or employment should be included in the list of rights already existing in the Constitution. Since a majority of our people only fight for their rights, a few basic duties should also be tagged with the rights. Social service in some form should be made obligatory for all able-bodied men and women, so that they can have a participatory role to play in national reconstruction.

Land reforms should be taken out of the purview of courts so that surplus land is distributed among the landless. Since the policy of reservation has served only a limited purpose, it should be replaced with some more positive and purposeful policy in consultation with enlightened public men and sociologists. Politicians with tainted or tarnished image should be debarred to contest elections.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

NATIONAL

ELECTIONS

Nation goes to the polls

THE first phase of polling was held on April 27, 1996 for 150 Parliamentary seats and 532 Assembly seats. In a largely subdued and peaceful election, some stray incidences of violence were reported which necessitated repolling in 246 stations in Andhra Pradesh, Assam and Haryana.

In the second phase on May 2, voting was held for 202 Lok Sabha seats. There was a turnout of about 50 per cent in the hill region of Uttar Pradesh, where the activists called for a boycott of elections. Besides mild incidences of violence in Andhra Pradesh, polling in Bihar witnessed its usual characteristic booth capturing, snatching of ballot papers and violent incidences, which claimed eight lives. Except for Lakshadweep, where a record 87 per cent of the total 34,111 electorate exercised their franchise, the voting in general maintained its usual level of 50-65 per cent. A sizeable section of the voters were denied voting right as their name did not figure in the voter's list despite the fact that most of them carried the Voter's Identity Card.

The third phase was held on May 7. Large scale violence was reported in parts of Bihar.

[For complete detail and analysis see Cover Story on Page 938]

SCANDALS

Chandraswami Arrested

AFTER the issue of non-bailable warrants on May 2, 1996, against the self-styled godman Chandraswami and his close associate Kailash Nath Aggarwal alias Mamaji, the CBI arrested the two from a hotel in Madras. The arrest of the two came in the wake of a chargesheet filed by the CBI on April 12, 1996, for allegedly duping Lakhubhai Pathak, a non-resident Indian businessman, of \$ 1,00,000, in 1983,

Bull Recharge to the Beat of FIs

Political scene in the country was hot. All signals indicated a coalition government. Amidst such a scenario capital market activity took a breath away. One could hardly believe that during the period of most indecisive election in the country, Sensex, a barometer of Indian capital market, would zoom. Reading at 3128 on the New Year day, the Sensex crossed the psychological barrier of 3600 and touched 3870 in April end. This was despite the fact that Indian market is very sensitive to political factors and had defied even the fundamentals of economy many a times. Election time has been merry time for Bears, but this time there was a Bull recharge. The end of Bear phase was evident but no one believed that it will come even before the start of polling.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIs) were the ones behind this unexpected change. Sudden influx of their buying gave a big push. They were not attaching too much importance to general elections as the leaders of major political parties had promised during their various meetings with the business community further liberalisation, dismantling of the licence raj and a friendly policy towards the multinationals. Congress, as well as the BJP, promised not to prohibit entry of MNCs. The share market was low and the FIs felt that this was the right time to invest.

The recent investment by FIs was so substantial that it even resulted in an upward revision of India's rating by an international rating agency, Morgan Stanley Capital International.

It has been observed by experts that major funds are coming from U.S. investors who find Indian market under priced. Even due to buoyant conditions in the British market FIs are flush with funds and they are also keen to divert a part of their excess liquidity to emerging Indian market. To the international investors the future in Indian stock market looks bright and no one wants to be left out and miss the train. A point to be noted is that the surge in Sensex was due to business in selected few blue-chip scrips only. The Bull phase is yet to catch the majority of scrips. Viewing the fact that FIs can acquire at the most 24 per cent of shares of a company only, the scope is wide open. If the investments continue very soon one can expect other scrips also seeing a Bull charge. At present there are about 360 FIs operating as against 280 in January 1995. Retail investors have also become enthusiastic and have joined the race, notwithstanding their traditional conservative outlook at such uncertain times.

The gallop of market is also due to dilution in liquidity crises in the economy. RBI's slack season policy released about Rs 5000 crore in the economy. Thus, markets strongly influenced by liquidity crises revived. Analysts say technically the market is strong and expect the rally to continue.

with a promise to use their influence in the Indian Government for the award of business contracts.

The duo have been charged under Section 420 (cheating) and 120-B (conspiracy) of IPC. They had been earlier arrested on January 13, 1988, but subsequently they were granted bail and even allowed to go abroad from time to time.

On April 25, 1996, for the first time, a

penalty of Rs 2.5 lakhs was imposed on Chandraswami in a case related to unauthorised acquisition of foreign exchange outside India. He was charged under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA). At present as many as 12 cases of FERA violation by Chandraswami are under various stages of investigations.

Earlier, on March 25, 1996, expressing its dissatisfaction with the progress

CURRENT AFFAIRS

NATIONAL

made by CBI in probing various charges against Chandraswami, the Supreme Court took over the day-to-day monitoring of the CBI's investigation of the cases against him. The cases include criminal association with underworld dons Dawood Ibrahim and Babloo Srivastava, the St Kittis forgery case and violations of FERA and Income Tax rules.

HOUSING SCAM: Sheila Kaul Forced to Resign

HIMACHAL Pradesh Governor Sheila Kaul came under a cloud when investigation by the CBI showed that she had doled out favours to her kin and friends during her tenure as Urban Development Minister. The CBI arrested two private secretaries of Kaul and the personal secretary of the Minister of State for Urban Development P.K. Thungon. The arrests were made in connection with the irregular allotment of government houses, which the Supreme Court had directed CBI to probe in its order of February 29, 1996. The examination of the files by CBI revealed direct involvement of Kaul and Thungon.

With the alleged involvement of Kaul, the issue of immunity provided to the Governor under Article 361 came into prominence. The Court, in one of its sharpest pronouncements, observed that the immunity would pertain only to the Governor's gubernatorial duties and suggested that she should step down to maintain the dignity of her office. However, she did not.

Taking note of the observations made by Supreme Court on Kaul's involvement in the scam and her apparent reluctance to step down, the President made no inhibition of his view-point by expressing that 'she must go without further ado'. After four days of her being implicated in the housing scam, Kaul resigned on April 21, 1996, after remaining in office for little

over 5 months.

HAWALA: More politicians are charge-sheeted

THE multi-crore hawala scam, which surfaced into prominence on February 22, 1996, brought further casualties. Reporting on the status of the investigations by the CBI, on April 9, 1996, the Solicitor General informed the Supreme Court that investigations against three more persons had been completed. The next day the CBI filed a chargesheet against the former Union Minister of State for Shipping and Transport, Mr Chand Ram, for allegedly receiving Rs 70,000 from the Jain brothers when he was a member of Parliament in 1991.

On May 1, 1996, the CBI disclosed that the chargesheets against the Governors of

Uttar Pradesh and Kerala were also completed. Governor of Uttar Pradesh, Mr Motilal Vora, and of Kerala, Mr P. Shiv Shankar, submitted their resignations.

The Jain brothers were charged under FERA by the Enforcement Directorate on April 30, 1996. The Jain brothers allegedly sold \$ 23.15 million and 90,000 pound sterling which had contravened Section 8(1) of the FERA.

JMM BRIBERY SCANDAL: Bhaskara Rao's Affidavits

THE allegation, that four MPs of Tharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) had received a huge amount of money in 1993 to vote against the no-confidence motion faced by Rao Government, took a new turn when on April 12, 1996 the Rashtriya

RBI cuts CRR by 1 per cent

On April 3, 1996 the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) reduced the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) by one per cent, from 14 to 13 per cent, brought down the CRR on NRE accounts from 10 per cent to zero, freed NRE deposit rate for over two years, and rationalised export refinance facility. These measures were part of the monetary policy for the first half of the year 1996-97.

RBI Governor C. Rangarajan termed 1995-96 as an "unusual year in monetary experience" since it saw exchange rate volatility and a severe credit crunch. The measures announced would be favourable for the banks' profitability.

The central objective of RBI's planning was price stability which fell to about 5% this year. It would also support productive activity by increasing lendable resources of banks but would not affect exchange rate or price stability.

The measures for 1996-97 include:

- Reduction in the CRR from 14 per cent to 13 per cent. This reduction of one per cent, to be activated in two phases, would augment the lendable resources of banks by about Rs 3,800 crore.
- Reduction of SLR on Non-Resident External (NRE) rupee deposits from 30 per cent to 25 per cent.
- Freeing interest rates on NRE term deposits of over two years. At present it is subject to ceiling of 12 per cent per annum.
- Enabling scheduled commercial banks to provide export credit refinance to the extent of 45 per cent of the total outstanding export credit eligibility for refinance as on February 16, 1996.
- Allowing Corporates to invest in money market mutual fund.
- Allowing Banks to fix their own aggregate gap limit in forex deals with specific RBI approval.
- Allowing select banks to carry out cross-currency transactions in overseas markets.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

NATIONAL

Mukti Morcha (RMM) submitted that the amount of money deposited in the account of four JMM MPs' was Rs 3.32 crores and not Rs 30 lakhs as stated earlier. It also gave detailed references relating to the opening of account and depositing of the money to the four JMM MPs.

In yet another revelation on April 24, 1996, Mr Bhaskara Rao, an Andhra Pradesh-based businessman and a key player in the bribery scandal, informed the court that he had received Rs 3.5 crore from Chandraswami. He said he gave it to JMM MP Simon Marandi to defeat the no-confidence motion. Mr Bhaskara Rao, who claims to be a confidant of Prime Minister Rao and his sons, also gave chronological details about the bribery episode.

On May 1, 1996 Bhaskara Rao informed the Delhi High Court that Rs 17 crore had been paid by the Congress to bail out the Government. The recent disclosure states that on the Prime Minister's instructions, Rs 20.5 crore was paid by the stock broker Harshad Mehta and hawala dealer S.K. Jain to Chandraswami as the price of defection.

GOVERNMENT HOUSING Court orders rent arrears recovery

ON April 25, 1996 the Supreme Court came down heavily on the Cabinet Committee for Accommodations (CCA) for its arbitrarily waiving arrears of rent to the tune of Rs 1 crore due from 58 political persons and bureaucrats who overstayed in government houses. The Supreme Court observed that the decision of CCA to waive of arrears was ad hoc. The issue of the powers of CCA, which comprises of three cabinet ministers, also came before the court. The apex court pulled up the government for adopting double standards in allotting bungalows. Among those who benefited from the waiver are election commissioner G.V.G.

Krishnamurthy, former Union Minister H.K.L. Bhagat, commerce secretary Tejinder Khanna and many other eminent people. In its orders the Supreme Court asked the Directorate of Estate to issue notices to the beneficiaries for recovery of the amount. The beneficiaries may file their objections in three weeks and place them before the Court on July 23, 1996.

BANKING Banks Closing rural branches

BANKS are expanding their networks in cities and towns but are cutting down on rural branches, according to figures released by the RBI. The number of rural banks fell to 34,889 in December 1995, from 35,142 in December 1994. But the total number of branches increased from 62,150 to 62,736 during the year. This implies that the number of urban branches are increasing while the rural banks are being closed down.

Banks are also setting up new branches in metros, urban and semi-urban areas. The number of commercial banks increased from 279 in December 1994, to 288 in December 1995.

In an year marked by sluggish growth, aggregate deposits with commercial banks grew 13 per cent, to Rs

4,01,400 crore, in December 1995, up from Rs 3,56,400 crore a year ago. Credit grew 20 per cent in the same period, which resulted in credit-deposit ratio going up to 61.6 per cent from 57.9 per cent.

WATER DISPUTE Cauvery Tribunal Rejects Karnataka Plea

ON April 16, 1996, the three-member Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal, headed by Mr Justice Chittatosh, turned down the Civil Petition filed on February 22, 1996, praying for deferring the proceedings of the tribunal, initially for three months. Karnataka pleaded that the Prime Minister's intervention to find a solution to the issue did not warrant the proceedings of the Tribunal. While upholding the submission by Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Pondicherry, against deferring the proceedings, the Tribunal noted that judicial orders and the proceedings could not be overridden or overborne by an administrative order. The Tribunal also upheld the Tamil Nadu Government plea that the Prime Minister's directions for the release of 6 tmc of water by Karnataka and setting up of an expert group was not an impediment on Tribunal proceedings.

Ajmer is costliest city

Ajmer has become the costliest city in the country, where a rupee is worth only 34.36 paise, while Amritsar is the cheapest, where a rupee is worth 42.39 paise.

Among the metropolitan cities, Madras is the costliest, with the rupee value 34.96 paise. People in Delhi and Calcutta are better off at 39.89 paise to a rupee, while in Bangalore it is 39.22 paise and in Mumbai 38.61 paise.

In the southern region, Coimbatore is the costliest city with the rupee at 34.48 paise. Thiruvananthapuram is better off at 40.65 paise. In the north, Chandigarh has the rupee value 35.71 paise.

On an all India base, the rupee is valued at 38.46 paise. The rupee value was calculated on the basis of consumer price index for urban non-manual employees with base 1984-85.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

NATIONAL

ENVIRONMENT

National Coastal Management Authority to be set up

ALLOWING a Public Interest Petition filed by the Indian Council for Environmental Action, the Supreme Court, on April 18, 1996, directed the Central Government to set up a National Coastal Management Authority (NCMA) to protect ecological balance along the 6,000 km long coastal line in the country. The Court also directed the coastal States—Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal—to set up their respective State Coastal Management Authorities. The NCMA would act as an apex body to oversee the functioning of the State Coastal Management Authorities.

The Court upheld the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification 1991 directing the coastal States not to permit any construction activities within 500 metres of the coastal areas. It overruled a subsequent notification that had allowed building activities within 200 metres of the coastline.

CHILD LABOUR

UNICEF launches Campaign

A two-month campaign has been launched by UNICEF for elimination of child labour and promotion of elementary education. The campaign, between April 15 and June 15, 1996, has been launched in association with Government departments like education, labour and various NGOs working among children. It aims at ensuring a childhood to children working as coolies, rag pickers, mechanics, errand boys and in the unorganised sector like garment exports, berdi, match and fireworks. It will also promote policies and actions favourable

to children from all walks of society.

As part of the campaign, April 30 was observed as Child Labour Day. The programme would be carried forward to give a sustained focus to child issues.

Contrary to popular opinion that poverty was the cause of child labour, it was mentioned that lack of schools and of motivation and apathy of school authorities in sustaining the interest of children were some of the major reasons for high school dropout rate.

ISRO SPY CASE

CBI finds it was a false case

THE CBI, probing into the sensational ISRO espionage case, involving six people including two Maldivian women and two senior scientists of the ISRO, has concluded that it was a false case and no espionage was involved. It has asked the court to discharge all the accused.

The CBI has said that confessions had been given to the police under duress though there was no complaint either from ISRO or from the Aeronautic Design Engi-

neering wing at Bangalore, about loss of documents.

BANDIT QUEEN FILM

Supreme Court lifts ban

ON May 1, 1996, the Supreme Court lifted the ban on the screening of the film 'Bandit Queen'. However, in view of Phoolan Devi contesting the Lok Sabha elections, the court permitted the exhibition of the film from May 9, 1996 only. Setting aside the order of Delhi High Court, which objected to certain scenes and banned the film, the Bench noted that the scenes were not meant to arouse prurient or lascivious thoughts, but intended to arouse revulsion against the perpetrators.

In its judgement, the Court said that it was not a pretty story but a sad one of a woman turning from a village girl to a dreaded dacoit. The High Court had ignored its theme and the fact that it condemned rape and degradation of women. The controversial scenes and expletives used went with the theme of the film, the court ruled.

Trade Deficit balloons to \$ 4.538 billion

The data on trade statistics released on April 26, 1996 reveal that during 1995-96, trade deficit has soared to \$ 4.538 billion. This is more than double of the deficit of \$ 2.027 billion in the previous financial year. The saving grace was that in the month of March this year, a positive trade balance was achieved with exports exceeding imports by \$ 2 million.

Exports: Exports are now estimated at \$ 31 billion, registering a growth of 21.35 per cent over exports during the previous year when they stood at \$ 2.5 billion. Against the growth rate target of 18 to 20 per cent, the actual achievement has been 21.4 per cent higher in dollar terms. Exports in March 1996 stood at \$ 2,657 million, up from \$ 2,207 million in March 1995, a growth of 19.91 per cent over March 1995 figure.

Imports: There has been a sharper increase in the rate of 25.74 per cent in India's imports during 1995-96. Against a 20.25 billion in the previous financial year, in 1995-96 imports have been estimated at \$ 26,538 billion.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL

INDIA-PAKISTAN

Pak High Commissioner makes provocative comments

THE Pakistan High Commissioner, Mr Riaz Khokhar, was summoned to the foreign office on April 29, 1996 and told that his comments about elections in Jammu and Kashmir being "rigged" were unacceptable, provocative and amounted to interference in India's internal affairs.

The Indian government's strongest indignation was conveyed to him. He was told that the substance and tone of the comments were not in keeping with the status of a foreign representative in India.

Political parties had condemned the remarks and called for Khokhar's expulsion. The BJP said the comments were "gross and unwarranted" and that Khokhar should be made a *persona non grata*. It demanded that he should be asked to leave the country.

Mr Khokhar had termed the Lok Sabha elections being held in Jammu and Kashmir as "farce", in an interview to a newspaper.

MIDDLE EAST

Israel gets tough with Hezbollah

FOLLOWING attacks on Israel's northern settlements by Shiite Muslim guerrillas of Hezbollah, Israel launched 'Operation Grapes of Wrath'. Lebanon was pounded by Israel from air, land and sea for over two weeks, which also resulted in a civilian massacre. The UN Security Council, on April 16, 1996, sharply criticised Israeli air raids on Lebanon. In turn, Prime Minister Shimon Peres made no inhibition of Israel's continuing with its operation aimed at destroying Hezbollah as a military force.

The Iranian-backed Hezbollah threatened to intensify its attacks in

whole of Northern Israel between the Libyan border and the 33rd Parallel. Foreign ministers of France, Italy and Russia met Lebanese leaders on April 21, in a bid to speed up cease-fire talks. The crisis also took precedence at the Moscow meet of G-7. The two-day meet devoted its inaugural day of April 19, 1996 on the crisis and called for disarming the Hezbollah and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli troops.

A breakthrough could be achieved only on April 27, 1996, when US Secretary of State, Mr Warren Christopher, managed reconciliation. Under the agreement, the Hezbollah agreed not to launch rocket attacks on Israel and Israel in turn agreed not to hit civilians. Christopher said that the efforts were not a substitute for a peace agreement between Israel and Lebanon. The present cease-fire is to be monitored by a team comprising of the USA, France, Israel, Syria and Lebanon.

On April 29, 1996, Hezbollah offered to recognize Israeli State in exchange for a comprehensive withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied zone in the south of their country.

Clause calling for Israel's destruction revoked

IN a historic move on April 24, 1996, the Palestinian National Council adopted the amendment revoking clauses from the PLO charter calling for Israel's destruction. The amendment, which formally ended 32 years of armed struggle against Israel for the liberation of Palestine, was carried out by a vote of 501 to 54 with 14 abstentions. PLO leader Yasser Arafat, who was bound by the 1993 peace accord to initiate the move for this amendment, faced some opposition from hard line groups.

The amendment was welcomed by Israel. It has long objected to various clauses of PLO charter. The annulling of clauses is likely to strengthen Israeli

Prime Minister Shimon Peres in the forthcoming elections. The scrapping of clauses by the PLO is also expected to give boost to the talks on the final status of the Palestinian territories and pave the way for the ultimate peace in the region.

UNHRC ANNUAL SESSION

Resolution condemns violent acts

THE 53-nation UN Human Rights Commission (UNHRC) concluded its six-week annual session with adoption of a resolution condemning all violent acts and called for curbing secessionism. It also adopted a resolution condemning abuses in countries like Cuba, Iraq, Rwanda, Sudan and Zaire. However, China, which also faced a similar resolution co-sponsored by European Union and the United States, managed to get it defeated. Israel, which has the status of observer at the

UN finally runs out of cash

The UN announced on April 30, 1996 that it had finally run out of cash. The recent crisis surfaced because of unpaid dues from member States. At present the United States, the largest debtor, owes \$ 1.5 billion, Russia owes about \$ 400 million, Japan \$ 128 million and Germany \$ 50 million. The United Nations is now borrowing from its peace-keeping missions to carry on its day to day activities.

The UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said that he may call an emergency session of the General Assembly to deal with the precarious situation. The UN may also cover the shortfall by borrowing from banks until member States pay money that they have pledged, or it may issue bonds.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL

Commission, also faced an overwhelming condemnation from all quarters except from the United States, for its air raids in Lebanon.

On April 14, 1996, the Commission adopted an Indian-sponsored resolution condemning all violent acts and activities that infringe upon human rights and fundamental freedoms, democracy, tolerance and pluralisms. It was the first time that the Commission had adopted a resolution, on tolerance and pluralism. While India took the lead in sponsoring the resolution, cutting across North-South and East-West divide, there were 30 co-sponsors to the resolution. However, Pakistan made a futile attempt to dilute some of the clauses of the resolution, but owing to an overwhelming pressure in favour of Indian sponsored draft, it finally withdrew its objections.

At the annual session of the UNHRC the Secretary General presented its report on the problems related with the minorities. The UN Commission strongly condemned secessionist movements and called upon international community to condemn them. The commission stressed that solution to minority problems has to be found within the framework of existing States. Reference to an earlier report by the Norwegian expert Asbjorn Eide was also made. Eide had reiterated that the basic foundation of international law is respect for the territorial integrity of existing sovereign States. On the issue of the self-determination, the commission noted that the right to self-determination does not include a unilateral right to independence or secession.

Racism study: Special UN investigator Maurice Ghele-Ahanhanzo criticised Britain for its immigration control laws but reserved his harshest words for a "wave of xenophobia and racism" sweeping France.

The study is based on policies of Britain, France and Germany. The study ap-

preciated the measures taken by Germany to combat anti-foreigner attacks although racism remained a problem in the country. It criticised Britain and France for not conforming to the requirements of the racial equality laws. Britain was criticised for its immigration control laws, since they reject people from the South, particularly black minorities. It said asylum laws were applied too harshly. France had shown many more causes for concern. It was in the grip of a racist wave that would damage its image as the homeland of human rights.

SRI LANKA

Operation Riviresa-II

THE Sri Lankan army launched Operation Riviresa-II on April 19, 1996, to liberate the entire peninsula from the control of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). Over 40 LTTE men were killed during the first two days of the operation.

On April 27, 1996 the Lankan army registered a commanding win when it captured the Kilali area. Kilali, which is located on the southernmost tip of Jaffna peninsula, served as the transit point for the rebels crossing over the mainland from northern Jaffna. The LTTE launched a propaganda war seeking its recognition as a freedom movement and to bring about international mediation to stop the war and resume peace negotiations. However, it could not manage much support from international community.

US to send military experts: The US is sending military experts and Britain, Israel and other countries have shown interest in training Sri Lankan soldiers in their fight against the Tamil rebels. The US training team would be coming for a month-long stint to train local forces in logistic aspects of air mobile operations.

PAKISTAN

Imran Launches movement

FORMER cricket star Imran Khan announced that he was formally entering politics on April 25, 1996, when he announced the formation of Tehreek-e-taqdim (movement for justice). The announcement ended months of speculation and provided Benazir Bhutto with her most serious political rival to date.

Khan announced his intention 12 days after a bomb blast which destroyed a part of his 16-month old cancer hospital. True to his characteristic denial about not having political ambitions, Khan announced the formation of movement and not a party. The venture has a strong support from Pasban, the breakaway group of Jamaat-e-Islami, Pakistan's fundamentalist party. It was Pasban which had helped him in raising funds for his cancer hospital. With the entry of Imran Khan into the active politics, the orthodox Islamic party, contrary to its poor previous voting record, is expecting to gain on the political front.

Pakistan building unguarded N-reactor

A US defence study says that Pakistan is building an unsafeguarded nuclear reactor. By this venture Pakistan will develop substantial capability to produce weapon-grade plutonium. The reactor is expected to become operational by the late 1990s. The CIA said that China is supplying technicians and equipment for plutonium reprocessing plant at Chashma. China's assistance will enhance Pakistan's efforts to build small warheads, it said.

The study remarked that Pakistan cloaks its Nuclear, Biological and Chemical (NBC) programme in secrecy and ambiguity. Attributing Pakistan's efforts to develop NBC warfare to its perception of India's nuclear threat, the study justified US policy to eliminate nuclear-weapon capabilities of India and Pakistan.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL

IRAN

Conservatives lose majority

IN the two-stage polls in Iran, the conservative religious and political group, the Combatant Clergy Association (CCA), lost an outright control of the 270-seat Iran's Parliament. The final results as emerged on April 22, 1996, revealed that although the Conservatives remained the largest single group in the House, they would have to depend on the support of the independents for survival. All the previous four assemblies since the 1979 revolution were dominated by one faction or group. It would be for the first time that the Iranian Parliament would experience intra-group alliances.

CHINA-FRANCE

Chinese Premier visits France

FOLLOWING the cancellation of his visit to the Netherlands and Luxembourg, France on April 10, 1996, became the first European country to welcome Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng. The visit of Peng, the first by a Chinese head in 11 years, evoked demonstrations not only against Chinese leadership but also against the French Government.

Fearing anti-Chinese demonstrations, Peng cut short his visit to two days from the scheduled four. The French Government tried to curb the demonstrations, but the Amnesty International demonstrated on the alleged violations of human rights and other activists demanding freedom for Tibet. French demonstrators also accused their government of ignoring Chinese credentials in human rights, for the sake of business. Unperturbed by the protests, the French leadership agreed to preclude the issue of human rights from the scope of meet, and the two opted to focus on business deals and on encouraging progress on general issues. After a series of private meetings between Li Peng

and French Prime Minister Alain Juppe, five trade accords were signed on April 11, 1996. These accords also include the much expected Chinese order for 30 Airbus A-320 planes worth \$1.5 billion.

SOUTH KOREA

No clear winner in elections

VOTERS in South Korea exercised their franchise to choose a new National Assembly. When the results were declared on April 12, 1996, it was clear that there would be no winner. All three major parties performed well below their expectations and the ruling New Korea Party (NKP) failed to sustain its narrow majority.

The political scenario in South Korea invariably revolves around three Kims—President Kim Young-sam, former Prime Minister Kim Jong-pil and opposition leader Kim Dae-jun. The three Kims have their regional backing. Since none of them emerged as a clear winner, the message from the voters was that it was time for a change from the old established order. The NKP, which held 147 seats, could get only 121 but formed a government with the help of others. Though President Kim Young-sam can foresee a majority of 150, it would be a demanding task.

Negotiations for end to war. South Korean President Kim Young-sam and US President Bill Clinton urged North Korea and China to join in negotiating a new four-power peace treaty to bring the 46-year Korean war to an end. Their proposal was a belated response to North Korea's sustained attack on the Korean armistice agreement, which has governed the cease-fire in the Korean war since 1953. China, however, refused to mediate in the peace efforts and it was doubtful that the proposal would achieve anything.

RUSSIA

Duma stands by controversial resolution

ON April 11, 1996, the Lower House of Russian Parliament, the Duma, reiterated its stand denouncing the breakup of the Soviet Union and gave reassurances that Russia's Statehood would not change. Duma's resolution, declaring the disintegration of USSR invalid, had created ripples around the world.

The resolution had been moved by the Russian Communist Party, with the backing of Agrarian Party, but it was opposed by the pro-government Presidential candidate Grigory Yavlinsky. The resolution, which called for the annulment of CIS, had urged President Boris Yeltsin to take steps towards reintegration of former Soviet republics. The revival of Soviet Union thus assumes importance in the ensuing Presidential elections in Russia. However, President Yeltsin categorically denounced the resolution. Denouncements also came from the leaders of almost all the non-communist parties and the Upper House of the Parliament asked the Duma to reconsider the resolution. But the Duma stood by the resolution with 285-5 votes with no abstentions.

SUMMITS

Summit on Nuclear Safety

THE eight-nation summit proposed and hosted by Russian leader Boris Yeltsin began in Moscow on April 19, 1996. The two-day Nuclear Safety Summit concluded with a pledge from the world leaders for adopting nuclear safety measures. The summit, which brought Russia, Ukraine and Group of Seven together, approved cooperation measures dealing with nuclear energy, radioactive waste, weapon-grade material and nuclear smuggling.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL

Both Clinton and Yeltsin denied suggestions that their meeting was designed to boost their upcoming presidential elections. Officially, it was to take stock of Soviet Union's hazardous nuclear legacy. There are 26 aging Soviet built reactors and each could become a disaster like Chernobyl. In the parallel summit held simultaneously, scientists and nuclear experts debated on how an accident could be avoided.

During the summit President Clinton expressed concern about Russia's continuing with \$ 800 million deal with Iran to build a 1000 megawatt nuclear reactor. Dispelling fears on misuse of nuclear programme by Iran, Russia formally announced its support for global ban on all nuclear tests. In turn, Russia struck a discordant note with an attack on NATO's nuclear policy and expressing itself against US stationing nuclear weapons on foreign territories.

In another significant development, Ukraine reluctantly confirmed the closure of Chernobyl by the year 2000 in exchange for some \$ 3 billion in aid from the G-7.

G-7: Upbeat about economic outlook

ON April 21, 1996 the Group of Seven rich industrial nations—Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States—held a crucial meeting in Washington. The meeting took place in conjunction with the semi-annual meet of IMF and the World Bank which proposed a debt relief grant to the poorest nations by reducing the value of the debt and interest payments. But the nations are objecting to such a grant saying that IMF should bear more of the burden.

The member countries welcomed the rise of the US dollar and voiced optimism that the worst of their economic weaknesses were behind them. However, on the slow growth in Europe, G-7 members

failed to spell out any specific measures. They were in particular divided over the extent to which US currency was needed to help France and Germany. Besides appreciating Russian economic reforms, the G-7 also discussed the plight of the world's poorest nations and the ways to beef up the IMF's emergency resources.

RUSSIA-CHINA

Yeltsin confers with Jemin

ON April 25, 1996, President Boris Yeltsin of Russia arrived in Beijing for the third Sino-Russian summit in three years. During the visit, Yeltsin and his Chinese counterpart Jiang Jemin signed the third communique between the two countries. The communique covered bilateral ties and international affairs. The two leaders also agreed to create a bilateral commission headed by the Prime Ministers of the two countries. Fourteen agreements were also signed, including setting up of a hot line between the two capitals.

The summit represented a warming of ties between Russia and China. Chinese President Jemin said that Beijing supported Russia's strong opposition to the eastward expansion of NATO. Expansion in the post-cold war world is not consistent with the times, he said. However, President Yeltsin was unable to persuade Chinese leaders to agree to a Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, a responsibility conferred on him by the recently concluded Nuclear summit in Moscow.

China signs treaty with 3 ex-Soviet Republics Sino-Russian relations took a significant turn on April 26, 1996 when three former Soviet Republics—Kazakhstan, Kirghistan and Tajikistan joined Russia in signing a border treaty with China. The nations pledged to keep their com-

mon frontiers free of all military activities. The treaty envisages the setting up of a 100 km wide zone on both sides of the border between the former Soviet Union and China in the Far East. The treaty has been eulogised as the first of its kind in Asia.

US-JAPAN

US pledges to keep 100,000 troops in Asia-Pacific

AFTER two years of contentious trade relations, US President Bill Clinton's three-day visit to Japan opened up new vistas of military alliance for the two nations. Following the collapse of the Soviet Union, expectations were aired about the withdrawal of American forces from Japan and northeast Asia. And more so because of the Okinawa incident in which a Japanese school girl was raped by American troops. Dispelling these apprehensions, the US President Bill Clinton asserted that the United States will retain its current level of 100,000 troops in the region, including about 47,000 in Japan, to preserve peace and uphold US interests.

On April 17, 1996, US President Bill Clinton and Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto signed the security document for maintaining a stable and prosperous environment for Asia-Pacific region. Though the Japanese constitution forbids it from developing an offensive military capability, the new pact pledged closer cooperation on the development of military technology. Japan also committed to spend \$ 25 billion to support the US troops over the next five years.

During his address to the Japanese Parliament (Diet), President Clinton apologised to the House for the Okinawa incident of September 1995 in which a 12-year-old Japanese school girl had been raped by US servicemen.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL

NIGERIA

Refusal to receive a human rights mission

TAKING strong exception to Nigeria's refusal to receive a Commonwealth Ministerial mission to study the human rights situation in the country, the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG) recommended sweeping sanctions against Nigeria.

The action group, comprising of the Foreign Ministers of Britain, Canada, Ghana, Jamaica, Malaysia, New Zealand, South Africa and Zimbabwe, had the mandate of Commonwealth Summit which was held in New Zealand. It was at the New Zealand summit that Nigeria was suspended on the execution of a civil rights leader. The summit had given two years time to Nigerian military rulers to return to democratic values or else face expulsion.

ITALY

Change of Guard

ITALY'S election of April 21, 1996 gave its centre-left Olive Tree coalition, led by Romano Prodi, a control over both the Houses of Parliament. The Chamber of Deputies (the Lower House of Parliament) gave the coalition a three-seat majority and in the Senate they got 167 seats as against Right's 117 seats. It is for the first time since the republic was established after the World War II that a Left-headed Government has come to power in Italy. The recent elections brought the Freedom Alliance's leader Silvio Berlusconi, who served as Prime Minister for a brief period, virtually on the threshold of losing his political career, for being involved in the corruption charges and loosing in the elections. However, the elections saw the strengthening of Alessandra Mussolini, the right-wing leader who successfully retained her seat in the Lower House.

As the 55th government in 50 years, and third in the four years, takes control over the situation, doubts have been raised about its survival as the new team lacks experience of running a government

NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

Africa signs treaty to become nuclear-free zone

ON April 11, 1996, African nations signed an agreement to make Africa a nuclear-free zone. In all 49 African nations signed the agreement. The regional pact, known as African Nuclear Weapons Free Zone Treaty or the Treaty of Pelindaba, envisages not to build, test or stockpile nuclear weapons and not to bury imported nuclear waste. The move for this agreement was initiated when France carried out its first nuclear test in Sahara deserts in the 1960's. As a part of this pact, Britain, China, France and the United States pledged not to test or use nuclear weapons in Africa. It was the South African announcement of 1993, that it had ended its nuclear

efforts and destroyed its nuclear weapons, that gave the much needed boost Africa's becoming nuclear free.

FIJI

Indians face evictions

FOLLOWING the decision of the Fijian government against the renewal of lease under the Agriculture Landlord-Tenants Act (ALTA) and the takeover of the sugar industry by the year 2000, thousands of Indian farmers in Fiji face the spectre of mass evictions.

Fiji, which consists of about 300 islands in western South Pacific, got independence from the British in 1970. In its agriculture-based economy, sugar and coconuts form 90 per cent of the total export. For the cultivation, Fijians had leased out portion of their land to the Indians for period of 10 to 20 years. With the first agriculture lease expiring next year, Indians, who mostly grow sugarcane, are virtually on the verge of becoming refugees in their own homes.

ADB reveals 7.9% growth in Asians

The Manila-based Asian Development Bank (ADB) in its recent report revealed that Asian's developing economies grew by 7.9 per cent in 1995. This growth has been three times more than the world average. The report of the 56-nation bank, released on April 11, 1996 rates China as the fastest grower in Asia and the World. China has been credited for attracting nearly half of the foreign direct investment that moved into Asian economies. The ADB which marked South-East Asia as another high-growth area, it send a word of caution over the Hong Kong. The slipping trend in Hong Kong has been attributed to the developments in US economy and the scheduled integration of Hong Kong with China.

Asia Demands \$ 280 Billion: According to a Asian Development Bank funded study, Asian nations need to spend \$ 6.9 trillion over the next 25 years or \$ 280 billion a year on creating necessary infrastructure for getting the status of fastest growing region in the world. Presenting the study on April 15, 1996 the ADB President Masao Saito noted that there has been a marked increase in the urban population over the last three decades. Precisely at present one out of three Asians live in towns as against about three decades ago, only about 18 per cent of the Asian population lived in urban areas. Keeping in view the growing pressure of urbanization, the study called for concerted efforts to check bottlenecks in water supply, sanitation, drainage and transport.

Current General Knowledge

AWARDS

Ambedkar National Award

THE second Dr Ambedkar National Award has been awarded to a Maharashtra-based educational institution, *Rajal Shiksha Sangathan*. The award carries a cash prize of Rs 10 lakh and a citation.

Goldman environmental prizes

SIX environmental heroes from around the world, including Mahesh Chandra Mehta from India, are the recipients of the seventh annual Goldman environmental prizes. Each winner will receive an award of \$ 75,000 from the San Francisco-based Goldman Environmental Foundation. Mehta is a lawyer who has won about 40 landmark environmental judgements and numerous orders from the Supreme Court making him one of the most successful environmental litigator in the world.

The five other winners are: Andyakira of Uganda, Albena Simeonova of Bulgaria, W.J. Ballantine of New Zealand, Edwin Bustillos of Mexico and Marina Silva of Brazil.

Pulitzer prizes

For international reporting: David Rohde of the *Christian Science Monitor* for his reports on the massacre of thousands of Bosnian Muslims in Srebrenica.

For explanatory journalism: Laurie Garrett of *Newsday* for explanatory journalism for her reporting from Zaire on the Ebola virus outbreak.

General non-fiction award. Tina Rosenberg of the World Policy Institute won the award for her book *The Haunted Land: Facing Europe's Ghosts After Communism*.

Spot news photography prize: Charles Porter IV, a freelancer, for his photographs taken after the Oklahoma city bombing.

Feature photography prize: Stephanie

Welsh, a freelancer, for a sequence of photos of a female circumcision rite in Kenya.

Asiatic Society award

MYANMAR democracy leader, Dr Aung San Syu Kyi, has been selected for the Indira Gandhi gold plaque by the Asiatic Society, for outstanding contribution in international understanding and inter-cultural cooperation.

The highest honour of the Asiatic Society, FAS (Honoris Causa), will be awarded to Professor Yashutomi Nishizuka, an eminent medical scientist and president of the Kobe University, Japan, for his outstanding contribution in detecting cancer through cell-signalling.

Eminent astronomer, Dr Jayant Vishnu Narlikar, will be presented the Rabindra Nath Tagore birth centenary plaque.

Other recipients of the awards include Dr J.W. Atkinson in psychology, eminent scientist and former chairman of the UGC, Dr Yashpal, scientist Dr Akshayananda Bose and historian and social thinker, Dr Ashok Mitra.

DAYS

World Book Day

RECOGNISING the importance of inculcating the habit of reading, UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) has decided to celebrate April 23 as World Book and Copyright Day.

DEFENCE

Nishant tested successfully

NISHANT, a remotely piloted vehicle (RPV) meant for battle-field surveillance and reconnaissance, has been successfully flight tested by the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE).

Nishant incorporates advanced design features which are comparable or su-

perior to similar vehicles developed elsewhere in the world. The system is capable of providing discrete aerial surveillance for extended durations by day and night, using sophisticated electro-optic and electronic sensors.

The RPV provides time sensitive battle-field status intelligence in real time to the commanders through data links designed to survive electronic counter-measures by adversaries.

Scheduled to enter the production phase next year, after a series of flight trials, *Nishant* would be manufactured by the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

Nishant is the second Unmanned Air Vehicles (UAVs) developed by ADE, the other being a Pilotless Target Aircraft (PTA) called *Lakshya*.

'INS Deepak' decommissioned

INS *Deepak*, the first fleet tanker of the Indian Navy has passed into history after a service of 28 years.

At the naval dockyard in Mumbai, the ensign and the flag on the tanker, which replenished the Western fleet during the 1971 Indo-Pak war, were lowered followed by the placing of the ensign in a special box and the sounding of the last post.

The 552-foot-long and 76-foot-broad vessel navigated a total distance of 4,57,879 nautical miles, spent 37,023 hours at sea and replenished 1,683 times during her commission. It had a full load displacement of 22,600 tons and a maximum speed of 20 knots.

The ship supported two naval ships tasked to ferry troops and equipment for the Indian contingent's mission to Somalia under the United Nations banner.

A new Russian-built tanker *Jyoti*, likely to be commissioned soon at St. Petersburg, Russia, is scheduled to be in-

ducted into the fleet to replace INS *Deepak*.

PLACES

Tabo monastery to celebrate 1000th year

A tiny hamlet situated at 3280 metres above sea level, in the far away Spiti Valley of Himachal Pradesh, will soon witness the celebrations to mark the one-thousandth year of the existence of the Tabo Monastery.

Better known as the Ajanta of the Himalayas, the monastery derives its name from that of the hamlet, Tabo. The two-week millennium year celebrations of the monastery, which was founded in 996 AD, will commence on June 20 this year and end on July 5. Over one lakh persons are expected to attend the celebration.

The Tabo Monastery is the only surviving monument representing the tradition of the old Gugga Kingdom which was known in its time for its zeal for adopting Buddhism.

The richly executed paintings and the stucco images inside the mudwalled constructions of the monastery make it not only a site of rich artistic grandeur but also of archaeological importance. Some of the murals of the monastery are as old as the monastery itself. However, conservative estimates put the paintings at over 500 years old. The monastery is in itself a great repository representing the Himalayan Buddhism.

The monastery is believed to have been founded by a Buddhist scholar from Western Tibet, Rin-Chen-Sangpo. This fact is also borne out of an inscription on one of the walls of the monastery complex. The completion of the monastery complex took nearly eight years.

RESEARCH

New System eliminates microfilms

A novel communication system has been developed to send, store and retrieve images over a network in various parts of hospitals, virtually eliminating the use of microfilms.

The system, called "Picture Archival and Communication System" (PACS), depends on the Param supercomputer developed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Com-

puting (C-DAC), Pune.

PACS has been jointly developed by the Sri Chitra Tirunal Institute of Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST), Thiruvananthapuram and the Electronic Research Development Centre.

The PACS can connect the scanning centre and consulting rooms for free exchange of image and other medical data. It will help eliminate the use of photographic films and reduce the recurring cost of hospital operations.

The PACS has been running on an experimental basis over a Local Area Network (LAN) computer system at the SCTIMST and in the second phase it will be extended to Wide Area Network (WAN) connecting hospitals such as the Regional Cancer Centre and the Trivandrum Medical College.

While the digital images can be directly hooked onto the PACS, X-Ray films can be fed to the system through a scanner. The experimental PACS being run at the institute now has an online retrieval capability of one month data or 500 images. Beyond the 500 memory, image data can be retrieved from the extra-memory of an optical juke box.

Another advantage of the PACS is that it can be copied on to a secondary workstation without any loss of quality. The image can be reduced, enlarged, cut and rotated depending on the requirements of the physician for exact diagnosis.

A flying computer camera

ON the Internet, the "web cam" sites have mini cameras which send your computer a little static view of the Brooklyn Bridge or Phoenix traffic jams. But now you can use your computer to steer one of those cameras around corners, up stairs, out windows, through the exhibits of a museum thousands of miles away.

The idea, called "blimp cam", is being tested in a computer science lab at the University of California at Berkeley.

A bright blue balloon hovers over

desks and drifts down hallways, carrying a little camera, a microphone and a tiny transmitter to broadcast back live video images and sound. Its designers say they hope one day it could be used as a "space browser", accessible over the Internet. It will be a tool for travelling to remote spaces and conveying the sensation that you're actually there.

SPACE

ISRO designs cryo engine

INDIAN Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has crossed a major hurdle in the development of indigenous cryogenic engine for the flight of Geostationary Launch Vehicle (GSLV) with the successful completion of the design of 7.5 tonne engine at its Valiamala complex at Thiruvananthapuram.

The design of the 7.5 tonne Cryo Upper Stage (CUS) is meant for launch vehicles capable of putting more than 2500 kg satellites into orbit.

The first Russian cryogenic engine is expected to arrive by the end of the year for the flight of India's first GSLV late next year or early 1998.

Subsequently, three more engines would arrive at an interval of six months. Since the four engines would have been exhausted by 2000, India has to develop its own cryo stage for GSLV flights beyond 2000.

Centre has so far sanctioned Rs 350 crore for the development of indigenous engines. Completion of the design of the scale engine and the understanding of critical technologies, such as injection valves, ignition systems and cooling systems, have given boost to the project.

The project has been seriously pursued only since the middle of 1992, after the Russians went back on their earlier technology along with the three engines.

Realisation of cryogenic technology even by 2000 would be a shot in the arm for the Indian space programme as all other countries possessing this intricate technology have taken at least 10 years for its development.

Astronomers discover giant pods

FLOATING in space, 450 light years away, are tadpole-shaped pods with comet-like heads, twice the diameter of our solar system, and tails 160 billion km long. And they may just be the first of trillions of such objects in the universe.

The Hubble space telescope has returned pictures of these formations and it is on a search for more. Astronomers call the images "cometary knots" because their glowing heads and filmy tails superficially resemble comets, or giant tadpoles.

Hubble astronomer C. Robert O'Dell and graduate student K. Handron, of Rice University in Houston, found the knots while exploring the Helix nebula, a ring of glowing gases in the constellation aquarius.

They believe that the pods are the result of a dying star's final outbursts, when it ejects shells of gas into space.

Using ground-based telescopes, researchers had known such objects were out there, but it took the Hubble, orbiting the earth, to find them in such abundance.

Identical twins set to create space history

THEY look alike, often speak alike and sometimes even wear the same clothes. They are Mark and Scott Kelly, making space history as the first twins selected as NASA astronauts.

The identical twins, both navy lieutenants and fighter pilots at the Naval Air Station at Patuxent River, Maryland, have been named as members of NASA's Astronaut Class of 1996.

They will begin a year of astronaut training at the Johnson Space Centre in Houston and then be assigned to fly space shuttles. NASA had never before chosen siblings as astronauts, let alone twins.

It is double pleasure for their parents as well. The 32-year-old brothers are the only children of Richard and Patricia Kelly, retired police officers who live in Flagler Beach, Florida.

More than 2,400 people applied to become astronauts and 35 were selected. Ten of them, including the Kelly twins, were chosen as shuttle pilot candidates.

"They have just exactly the qualities we usually look for in the pilot programme and they both came highly regarded", said Duane Ross, manager of NASA's astronaut selection office. "The fact that they are identical twins is inconsequential."

Mark and Scott Kelly look and act so much alike that during their separate interviews with NASA last year, "the same one could have showed up and you'd never know the difference", Ross said.

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ATHLETICS

IAAF ratifies pole vault mark

THE International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) have ratified the women's pole vault record of 4.41 metres set by Emma George of Australia in Perth. It has also ratified the indoor women's record of 4.28 metres set by Caryun Shun of China and 1,000 metres indoor time of 2 minutes 32.08 seconds achieved by Maria Mutola of Mozambique.

BADMINTON

European Badminton Championships

POUL-Erik Hoyer-Larsen claimed a record equalling third successive men's singles title as Denmark enjoyed a clean sweep at the European badminton championships held at Herning (Denmark).

CHESS

Mohammad Hassan Memorial Contest

INTERNATIONAL women's master Anupama Gokhale created a new world record by winning the Mohammad Hassan Memorial international rating chess tournament held at Hyderabad. Bharat Petroleum official, Anupama became the first lady in the history of Indian chess to win an all India level international rating tournament.

CRICKET

Singer Cup

DESPITE Sanath Jayasriya's slambag half century, the fastest ever in one-day cricket, Sri Lanka lost the final of the Singer Cup to Pakistan by 43 runs. The three-nation tournament, with India being the third country, was played in Singapore.

Pepsi Cup

SOUTH Africa beat India by 38 runs to win the Pepsi Cup cricket tournament at

Sharjah. India scored 249 for 9 in reply to South Africa's 287 for 5. Pakistan was the third participating country.

Cricketer of the year

INDIA'S vice captain Sachin Tendulkar has been declared the Sun Grace-Mafatlal's cricketer of the year for the 1995-96 season. This is the third time that he has won the award.

Pollock makes cricket history

SOUTH Africa's Shaun Pollock has made history by taking 4 wickets in 4 balls in his debut of the England county cricket. Pollock became the first player to achieve the feat in the 25-year history of the competition. He finished his spell for 6 for 21 in 10 overs.

Morrison's Record

NEW ZEALAND fast bowler Danny Morrison has the record of most ducks in Test cricket. The previous record of 23 ducks was held by Chandrashekhar, who could not use the bat due to a polio affliction.

Sri Lanka-West Indies one-off one-day match

WORLD champions Sri Lanka, led by offspinners Dharmasena and Muralitharan, defeated West Indies by 35 runs. The special match marked the 100th birthday of the ground at Port of Spain.

New Zealand-West Indies Test Series

First Test: A maiden Test century by Nathan Astle failed to save New Zealand from a defeat by West Indies in the first Test held at Bridgetown. Man of the match Sherwin Campbell scored a double century in the first innings.

FOOTBALL

Beighton Cup

BORDER Security Force, Jalandhar, edged out Tamil Nadu XI by one goal to regain the Beighton Cup after a gap of 24 years at the Mohun Bagan ground in Calcutta.

GOLF

The 60th Masters

NICK Faldo won his third Masters when Greg Norman blew a six-shot lead heading to the final round, the biggest collapse in major tournament history, at the 60th Masters played in Augusta, USA.

TENNIS

Davis Cup

SWEDEN defeated India 5-0 to enter world group semi-finals.

Indian Open

THOMAS Enqvist justified his top billing by beating Byron Black of Zimbabwe in the title match of the McDowell Indian Open tennis championships held in New Delhi.

Japan Open

PETE Sampras beat fellow American Richey Reneberg 6-4, 7-5 in the Japan Open final in Tokyo. In the women's singles finals, Kimiko Date beat American Amy Frazier 7-5, 6-4 for her fourth title in five years.

WEIGHTLIFTING

Asian Weightlifting Championships

CHINA won both the men's and women's team titles of the Asian Weightlifting Championships held at Tokyo. They also has set five world record during the event.

Question Box

Q. How does research done in Central Rice Research Institute help in production of rice in India?

—*Namita Pattnaik, Cuttack (Orissa)*

A. Research in CRRRI leads to development of high yielding and quick growing rice varieties. When these seeds are released and used commercially, it results in higher rice production in the country.

Q. What is a company secretary expected to do?

—*Saurav Roy, Asansol (WB)*

A. A company secretary is concerned with meeting legal provisions and those related to the share capital of a company. It is a middle to senior level position.

Q. Which subjects should I take up for my Civil Services Examination?

—*R.K. Biswas, 24 Parganas (WB)*

A. The subjects you take up depends on your interest and what you have studied till now. You will be the best judge to answer this question.

Q. What are the job prospects after doing ICWA?

—*Samit Kandpal, Rewa (MP)*

A. The Indian Cost and Works Accountant (ICWA) will find employment in companies since he looks after the costs being incurred. As such, the prospects of ICWA are good.

Q. What is the difference between rifle and machine gun?

—*Dibyaranjan Behera, Bhubaneswar*

A. A rifle will fire one shot every time. The machine gun is automatic and will fire several rounds on pressing the trigger.

Q. What is 'soap opera'?

—*S.K. Das, Hooghly (WB)*

A. Soap Opera is a radio or TV serial drama. Since it was sponsored by soap companies, it got its name. Today, it would refer to any sentimental or melodramatic play on TV.

Q. What is foreign institutional investor?

—*Neetu Khanna, Jaipur*

A. When foreign institutions such as banks and financial companies invest in another country, they are known as foreign institutional investors.

Q. A small letter 'R' or 'C' is written after names of certain products. What is its meaning?

—*Vikas Gupta, Patiala*

A. The letters mean that the brand is a registered trade mark or is protected by copyright. No other person or company can use the name or style that it is written in.

Q. I am doing a computer diploma course. I understand computers but I find it difficult to execute commands. Is it true that only a maths student can understand computers? How can I improve my logical reasoning? Please guide me as I am losing confidence.

—*K. Maria Antonette, Madurai*

A. Proficiency in maths is not necessary to understand computers. Ask your instructor to help you with flow-charts and you will find things becoming clearer. You can also do the logical reasoning tests in *Competition Master*. If you still cannot do it, probably you lack aptitude. In that case, you should do something more suited to

your personality. After all, everybody need not know programming. These days you can operate computers by knowing just some packages—you will be better off learning those. There is no need to feel discouraged or frustrated.

Q. How can any one become like Vivekananda?

—*Ashok Kumar Singh, Calcutta*

A. One can become a great person like Vivekananda by following the high ideals set by him. Study his life and teachings and try to follow them, both in letter and spirit. Once we start living up to great ideas in thought and deed, one becomes a great soul. It is, however, a difficult task though an achievable target.

Q. Why can't men take pills for birth control?

—*Ranvier Thakur, Shimla*

A. Male contraceptive pills have been tried but have not succeeded. Research is currently going on and one may be available in a few years. At present females can use a contraceptive pill while men can undergo a simple operation for birth control.

Q. I am studying in the 10th standard and would like to join NDA. What should I do?

—*Kritika Joshi, Udaipur (Rajasthan)*

A. The eligibility condition for NDA states that only male candidates are eligible. Thus, you cannot join NDA and should look for alternative career. If you still wish to join the army, there are several options open. These were covered in *Competition Master*, July 1995 issue. You can also obtain information from: Additional Direc-

torate General Recruiting (Women Entry Section) West Block 111, R.K. Puram, New Delhi—110 066.

Q. I am a student of B.A. What can I do after graduation?

—Goldy Shah Chawla, Hansi (Haryana)

A. What you do after graduation depends on your interest and aptitude. You can take up M.A. in one of your subjects or do a job-oriented course. The choice really is yours. You can talk to a counsellor to help you make up your mind.

Q. I want to become an expert in English writing and speaking. Please give me some suggestions.

—Krishna Chettri, Rohtar (West Sikkim)

A. To write good English, read books of great authors and study their craft. Try writing letters and essays by organising your thoughts. Speaking is also learnt by practice. Listen to the BBC and try to speak like them. A good linguistic teacher can help you become an expert in pronunciation and speech.

Q. I am doing my B.E. in Electronics. Should I do MBA?

—Vivek Mohan Gupta, Varanasi (UP)

A. The question can really be answered by your own self. If you want to become a manager, you should do MBA. If electronics is what you like, you should look for a job that will help you work with electronics, or take up a higher degree in your subject.

Q. I am keen to make a career in environment. What can an arts student do?

—Neetu Sharma, Meerut (UP)

A. You don't have to be a science graduate to work in the field of environment. Many organisations look for Master in Social Welfare (MSW) or rural management background. You can take up any of these and work in the field of environment.

Q. What is the difference between a spacecraft and a rocket?

—Rolika Gupta, Lucknow (UP)

A. A rocket is a launching device, which carries its cargo into space. The cargo may consist of a spacecraft, a vehicle capable of moving in space and carrying astronauts.

Q. Why do ants move in a line?

—P.T. Seena, Thiruvananthapuram

A. Ants do not have eyes by which they know where to go. The leader of a group of ants releases a scent which the others pick up and follow it. Thus they move in a straight line, following the path of their leader. It helps them from getting lost and also makes life simpler.

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The Examiner's Guess Questions

Q. What is the name of the book written by the grand-daughter of the slain Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin?

Ans. *Grief and Hope* the book describes her grandfather from her personal viewpoint.

Q. What is the name of the airline which has been started as a subsidiary of Indian Airlines?

Ans. Alliance Air, the wholly owned subsidiary of Indian Airlines, started operations on April 15, 1996.

Q. Which is the world's tallest building?

Ans. Kuala Lumpur's Petronas Twin Towers are now the world's tallest buildings, as declared by the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat in Chicago. The 88 storey building, measuring 452 metres, beat the 110 floor Sears Tower, which had held the record for the last 22 years.

Q. When was the World Heritage Day celebrated?

Ans. The World Heritage Day was celebrated on April 18. The objective was to unite global efforts in preservation and propagation of the cultural heritage of the world. The celebration was organised by the Archaeological Survey of India which has 3,560 monuments under its protection and preservation. Of these, 16 have been declared World Heritage Monuments including Agra Fort, Taj, Fatehpur Sikri, Ajanta, Ellora, Elephanta Caves, Churches of Goa, Mahabalipuram, Khajuraho and Sanchi.

Q. When was the World Book Day celebrated?

Ans. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) decided to celebrate April 23 as World Book and Copyright Day. The proposal to celebrate this was put forward by Spain. The Federation of Indian Publishers extended the celebrations in India as well.

Q. Which monastery will be celebrating its 1000th year from June 20 to July 5, 1996?

Ans. The Tabo monastery in the Spiti

Valley in Himachal Pradesh will be celebrating its 1000th year spread over two weeks. It was founded in 996 AD by a Buddhist scholar from Western Tibet, Rin-Chen Sangpo.

Q. What is the level of gem and jewellery exports from India?

Ans. Gem and jewellery exports from India are \$ 5,433 million in 1995-96, compared to \$ 4,693 million in the previous year, showing an increase of 15.8% and surpassing the target of \$ 5,420 million. It continues to be one of the highest foreign exchange earners for the country and nearly one fifth of the country's exports are accounted for by this segment.

Q. Which two companies have merged recently to make India's third largest private sector company?

Ans. Hindustan Lever Ltd and Brooke Bond India Ltd.

Q. Which company has launched India's first DAMA VSAT service?

Ans. Telstra V-Com, a joint venture of Telstra Corporation of Australia, India's international communications gateway 'Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd (VSNI) and Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Ltd, commissioned India's DAMA VSAT service on April 20, 1996.

Telstra V-Com is the first satellite communications company to use DAMA technology for VSAT services. This technology uses a single hub satellite communication to provide flexible, reliable and cost effective voice, data and video communications.

Q. The tenth anniversary of which disaster was celebrated recently?

Ans. Thousands of tearful mourners gathered near the Chernobyl nuclear plant, in Ukraine, to mark the tenth anniversary of the world's worst nuclear disaster. Chernobyl's reactor had exploded on April 26, 1986 releasing 200 times as much radiation as the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki combined. The radioactive cloud across Europe had contaminated millions of people.

Q. What was the level of trade deficit of India in 1995-96?

Ans. The country's trade deficit touched \$ 4,538 billion in 1995-96, which is more than double the deficit of \$ 2,027 billion in 1994-95. In March a positive trade balance was achieved with imports exceeding imports by \$ 82 million.

Exports for 1995-96 are estimated at \$ 31.831 billion, signifying a growth rate of 21.38% over last year's exports of \$ 26.223 billion.

Q. Which cricketer made history by taking 4 wickets in 4 balls?

Ans. South Africa's Shaun Pollock, who took 4 wickets in 4 balls in his debut for the England county Warwickshire against Leicestershire.

Q. Which is the world's oldest sports daily?

Ans. The Gazzetta dello Sport, the pink paged newspaper of Italy, celebrated its 100th anniversary with a bumper 124 page edition. It is the oldest sports daily in the world, nicknamed La Rosea, or the Pink One.

Q. Who has been arrested in the US for being Unabomber, the terrorist who had been bombing targets for 18 years?

Ans. Theodore Kaczynski, a former maths teacher. He was nicknamed Unabomber because his early targets were universities and airlines.

Q. What is the name of the condition in which people lack the ability to show facial expressions?

Ans. Moebius syndrome, which is a rare condition in which a person does not have cranial nerves in the face. A person who has it cannot exhibit facial expressions and has a "mask-like face".

Q. Where is the first-ever international food technology fair being held?

Ans. The first-ever international food technology fair, Anuga Foodtec, will be held in Cologne, Germany, from November 5-9, 1996. Several Indian companies will participate in the fair. It is being organised by Koln Messe, the third largest exhibition company in Europe, in cooperation with German Agricultural Society (DLG).

PARAGRAPH-WRITING

Model Paragraphs

"Taking a new step, uttering a new word, is what people fear most."

—F. Dostoyevski

Most of the people are used to following the beaten track and uttering the words and phrases already in circulation. Perhaps such an attitude to life seems easy to pursue and achieve. Like the birth of a new life, the conception of a new idea or a word, is both painful and promising. What people fear the most is the uncertainty and uneasiness that any new move or movement can cause to the established order. Any effort to introduce or coin new words or phrases in keeping with the tone and tune of times, though very much natural and desirable, is bound to effect ripples in the smooth waters of a language and its rigid parameters. If conformism is the easier option to follow than picking up new challenges, there is no dearth of such persons as can take the bull by the horns to prove that 'if old is gold' the 'new is equally exciting and exuberant'. Each new invention or discovery upsets the apple cart and creates a few fears and apprehensions but with the passage of time the once 'new and unheard' becomes a part and parcel of life later on.

"From the sublime to the ridiculous, there is only one step."

—Napoleon Bonaparte

Just as there is many a slip between cup and lip, in the same vein the danger of falling from the sublime situation to the ridiculous rigmarole is equally true and troublesome. Discretion is the best part of valour but indiscretion is also a trait of human character. A slip of tongue may make a mess of an otherwise pleasant occasion

and cause an irreparable damage to mutual relations. No one can say with certainty that the decline from the high to the low, the right to the wrong, is always predictable. Sometimes events overtake us with such a speed and surprise that we are found at our wit's end and as a result of our confused state of mind, we burn our own fingers by crossing the forbidden barrier between the sublime and the ridiculous. More often than not, people make a fool of themselves by over-sight or over-confidence and mar their hard earned reputation by indulging in acts that bring only disdain and disgrace. Discipline and dedication are the inalienable ingredients of human psyche that can save them from forsaking the sublime path and embracing the ridiculous short-cuts.

"Every man wastes a part of life to gain applause."

—Samuel Johnson

To be flattered and applauded is a common human weakness. Wittingly or unwittingly, every man nurses a desire to be known and then praised for something he or she does in life. Quite often we waste a part of life to catch others' attention and their approval, which like a bubble is both unreal and transitory. We are aware of the fact that most of the cheers that we imagine to hear in appreciation of our work, are empty noises raised for a while and then lost for ever. Since every moment of life is precious and paramount, it is a sin to waste our breath over things that are passing and puerile. Blessed are a few, endowed with rare qualities of their head and heart, who win the appreciation of their admirers. Such men do not belong to the ordinary species as far as

their perceptions and practices are concerned. They nourish no mean desire to become famous for the sake of fame. A genuine gem of men, employ every moment of life for something higher, nobler and sublimer than the deceptive, illusory and fleeting applause.

"Hypocrisy cannot be practised at spare moments, it is a whole-time job."

—W. Somerset Maugham

The inclination to conceal one's insincerity in the garb of sweet words and impressive gestures is not like entertaining oneself for a while and then giving up the mask and appear in true colours. A hypocrite is a past master in the craft of showing others in less appealing colours and contours. He trades in double-talk and double-dealing all the time. Without clinging to hypocrisy, he finds himself helpless and deficient. For him hypocrisy is a cult that he must uphold at all costs. He never cares to deliberate over the harm that he inflicts on himself as well as on others. Hypocrisy may bring a few gains in the short run but the damage it does to an individual's psyche and the society at large is immense and ignominious. Since hypocrisy is the second nature, its exposure brings nothing but snipes and sneers. Calling a person's bluff and then showing him his proper place, may mend matters for him in future. But the fate of a hypocrite is really irremediable because without insincerity or hypocrisy, he finds himself hanging in a vacuum with neither any sense of pride in his past nor any hope of big transformation in his pretentious postures in future.

Questions on Social and Economic Problems

Q.1. Comment on India's policy with respect to:

(a) Agricultural prices

Despite rapid industrialization in recent years, India is still a primarily agrarian country. Therefore, the prices of foodgrains and agricultural raw materials hold a key position in the price structure of the country. A rise or fall in the agricultural prices causes a rise or fall in the general price level. The government lays a lot of stress on prices in the agriculture sector. The government policy keeps in view the need to provide incentive to the producer for adopting improved technology and for maximizing production and the likely effect of the price policy on the rest of the economy, particularly on the cost of living, on wages, industrial cost structure etc. The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) advises the government on fixation of procurement/support prices. While recommending these prices, the CACP takes into consideration, various factors such as cost of production, input-output price parity, trends in market prices, inter-crop price parity and parity between prices paid and prices received, etc. Government fixes the procurement/support prices after reviewing the recommendations of CACP. The government announces procurement/minimum support prices for each season and also arranges procurement/price support operations through public/cooperative and other State-designated agencies. Procurement prices/support prices set the floor to and significantly influence open market prices. These are in the nature of a guarantee that the prices will not be allowed to fall below these levels as the government will then intervene and make purchases at the guaranteed price.

Agriculture in India is seasonal and supply of agricultural goods is subject to serious fluctuations. Agricultural prices may rise faster at times and fall rapidly at some other time due to a temporary imbalance of supply and demand. Fluctuations in the prices of foodgrains and agricultural goods have serious consequences for the producers and consumers and could be exploited easily by the middlemen. Therefore, the problem of stabilisation of prices of agricultural goods, specially foodgrains, becomes significant.

Stabilisation of agricultural prices is very important. The government uses three elements for stabilisation of prices—appropriate support prices, buffer stock operations and imports when necessary. India has been following the policy of buffer stock operations in foodgrains. Major problems of buffer stock operations relate to pricing, finance, warehousing, administration, etc. Imports of foodgrains and other agricultural goods also play an important role in maintaining domestic supplies and for stabilising prices.

(b) Agricultural Exports

Agricultural and allied products' exports include coffee, tea, oil cakes, tobacco, cashew kernels, spices, sugar, raw cotton, rice, fish and fish preparations, meat and meat preparations, vegetable oils, fruits, vegetables and pulses. For a long time before independence, and even after planned economic development started, India exported mainly these goods. But since 1960, under the impact of industrialization, exports of non-traditional items are gaining in importance. Exports of traditional items are expanding, though probably not to the extent desired. This is

evident in growth in cotton fabrics, tea, leather and leather goods.

In almost all the non-oil producing developing countries, agricultural commodities or value-added products from agriculture account for a major portion of their export earnings. In India, the total exports of agricultural exports (excluding tea, coffee, marine products and raw cotton) during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 were Rs 5686.81 crore, Rs 7532.99 crore and Rs 7049.05 crore, respectively. Important items of agricultural exports are rice, cashewnuts, horticulture and floriculture products, coffee and tea. Share of agricultural exports in total exports was only 8.56 per cent in 1994-95.

India's share in the world trade in agricultural commodities is less than 1 per cent. For over four decades industry remained highly protected and agriculture served as a source of cheap raw materials for the domestic industry, a very large segment of which was inefficient and globally non-competitive. This had a dampening effect on agricultural exports and investment in agriculture.

However, now there are efforts to check this imbalance between agriculture and industry. There was an increase in the volume of agricultural exports during 1995-96. This has been possible because of a number of policy changes. Import duties on capital goods, particularly for greenhouse equipment and plant and machinery necessary for food processing industries have been reduced. Also, credit for export is now easily available.

Indian agriculture is now beginning to appear globally competitive. The global environment together with pragmatic domestic pricing policies for agriculture exports augurs well for overall agriculture

development.

Q. 2. Discuss the following:

(a) WTO

World Trade Organisation (WTO) is a multilateral trade organisation. It was set up to replace the erstwhile GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade). The main aim of the organisation is to lower the tariff multilaterally among the member nations and covers almost the entire world community. All member countries are supposed to accord the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status to one another which would result in increased trade among them.

WTO was formed on January 1, 1995 after negotiations in the Uruguay Round of GATT for several years. Several new issues like Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs), Trade Related Investment Measures (TRIMs) and Trade in Services were the new concepts that formed the basis of the new negotiations and agreement.

Provisions of WTO will not only assist in enhancing the trade in merchandise but will also step up trade in services by easing the restrictions on cross-border service transactions. Formally, the birth of WTO took place on January 1, 1995 but it had actually come into being on April 15, 1994 at Marrakesh when most of the member countries signed the historic agreement. A time period of 10 years has been given to the developing countries to prepare themselves for the functioning of WTO, by making legislative and administrative changes.

WTO is expected to benefit the member countries. It is a well-established principle of economic theory that a country should largely produce and export only those commodities in which it enjoys comparative advantage. Thus, all the countries of the world can enjoy the fruits of comparative advantage and gain. On the basis of this elementary principle, the world community anticipates an additional global income gain of \$ 500 billion annually. Free trade in services will make available better services at cheaper rates

to the world community.

India will also gain from the new organisation. If we don't join this organisation, almost three-fourth of the world market would be out of bounds. Being an agricultural economy, several new breeds of plants, seeds or animals have been developed here which could become entitled to claim payment for patents. Indian gains in the income levels could be about \$ 2 to \$ 3 billion per annum.

(b) IMF

The International Monetary Fund was established in December 1945, after the ratification of the Articles of Agreement of the Fund, formulated at the United Nations Monetary and Financial Conference held at Bretton Woods, New Hampshire in 1944. In 1947, it became a specialised agency.

The purposes of the fund are to encourage monetary co-operation, facilitate the expansion and growth of International trade, assist member countries in correcting Balance of Payments deficits and promote Foreign Exchange Stability.

The fund relies on contributions by members and borrowing arrangements to finance its operations. Member contributions, payable in SDRs, other members' currencies or its own currency, are determined by a quota system which assigns each member a quota related to its national income, monetary reserves, ratio of exports to national income and other economic indicators.

A number of credit regulations, known as tranche policies, control members' access to the fund's general resources. The tranche policies limit purchases of foreign currencies by a member to some multiple of its quota but this figure can be as much as 440 per cent for countries which can avail themselves of all the existing facilities.

In addition to the normal stand-by facilities, the fund has established a compensatory scheme for financing temporary export fluctuations, a Buffer stock financing facility, an extended facility which provides medium term financing for up

to 4 years to enable members to overcome structural balance of payments difficulties, a structural adjustment facility and an enhanced structural adjustment facility (the latter two facilities are important as they help low income countries improve their growth prospects).

In 1967, a draft outline for a scheme of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) was produced, to augment international liquidity. The first allocation of SDRs took place in 1970, with subsequent allocations in 1971, 1972, 1979, 1980 and 1981. The SDR is an accounting creation without any backing, which, subject to a variety of conditions, debtor countries may use to settle debts.

Apart from making loans, the other main function of the IMF is the surveillance of the exchange rate policies of members in an attempt to secure consistency in macro-economic policies at the world level. This is done by engaging in annual or biennial discussion with members.

Executive authority for the Fund's operations is vested in a Board of Governors composed of two representatives from each member country. Daily activities of the fund are conducted by a permanent staff under the supervision of the Managing Director and Board of Executive Directors.

Q. 3. Write notes on the following:

(a) Status of women in Indian Society

Status is 'the legal character or condition of a person or thing' ... 'a relative position, especially, relative social or professional position'. Linton described the status of women as "the position of woman as an individual in the social structure defined by her designated rights and obligations". Status is also defined as a woman's access to various resources—material (food, income, land etc.) and social (knowledge, power, prestige). Status of women is usually measured both in absolute terms and relative to men.

1971 onwards, there has been a marked change in the status of women.

This is due to the improvement in infant mortality, total fertility rate, gross reproduction rate, child-woman ratio and life expectancy at age one. Various schemes undertaken for rural development also influenced such changes. Schemes initiated had dual effects—uplifting the socio-economic conditions of women as well as solving the problem of over-population.

The status of women is better than before. About 1.37 million women had benefitted from the support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) Scheme, upto December 1994. Women get reservation and priority in special employment and poverty alleviation schemes. There is a greater access to employment opportunities and women seem to be making a mark in male-dominated areas like Defence Forces. In terms of access to material and social resources, women in India enjoy a better status than their counterparts in other South Asian and African countries. But there are variations within India also. The overall female literacy rate is 39.29—extreme variations manifest, as high as 86.2 per cent in Kerala and 20.4 per cent in Rajasthan.

However, the problems faced by women are also prominent—poverty, malnutrition, female infanticide being some major ones. According to the UNDP Human Development Report, 1995 India has a maternal mortality rate of 460 (per lakh live birth). The school enrolment ratio for women is only 46 (Male = 100) and the percentage of economically active girl children is 11. India is ranked 99th on a list of 130 countries for the GEM (Gender Empowerment Measure) which reflects disparities between men and women. In India, women earn only 19 per cent of the national income because 90 per cent of them work in the unorganised sector for low-pay or no-pay jobs. Women workers are, by and large, an undervalued lot.

While the status of women has improved over the years, a lot remains to be done. India still cannot boast of giving its women their fair share and place in society.

(b) Minorities in India

There are two major categories of minorities in India (1) Linguistic Minorities : The Constitution of India recognises eighteen major languages spoken by a large majority of the people and hundred of other languages and dialects are spoken by the people in rural areas. Hindi is the official language. Since each of the States has an official language, those who speak another language as their mother tongue often regard themselves as belonging to a linguistic minority. The largest 'Stateless', linguistic minorities are Bodo (0.5 million), Nepali (1.4 million), Konkani (1.5 million), Santhali (3.8 million) etc. Another set of linguistic minority groups comprises those who speak an official language other than the language of the State in which they live. These minorities are concentrated in Assam, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. (2) Religious Minorities . Although Hinduism is the religion of the majority of Indians, there are important religious minorities such as Muslims and Sikhs who have been able to maintain their group identities.

The Indian Constitution lists various measures to protect the minorities. Cultural, linguistic and religious rights of all sections are to be protected. The Constitution is secular and does not promote any religion as State religion. Citizens have the right to conserve their distinct languages, scripts or cultures [Article 29-(1)]. The Constitution also provides that the medium of instruction upto the Primary school level should be in the mother tongue of the children belonging to linguistic minorities. All minorities have fundamental rights to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice. The President can appoint a Special Officer to investigate all matters pertaining to the safeguards provided to the linguistic minorities. No citizen can be denied admission in State-owned educational institutions, on the basis of caste, religion, language or race etc. The State cannot discriminate against any educational institution on the ground that it is

under the management of a minority, religious or linguistic, while granting aid to educational institutions. No person can be discriminated against in the matter of public employment on the grounds of race, religion or caste.

Minorities have gained an increasing group consciousness and this shows no signs of withering under the forces of modernisation. These demands include demand for the creation of new States (Bodoland, Jharkhand and Gorkhaland), linguistic recognition, reservations, security.

India contains a medley of religious, caste and linguistic groups. Minorities have been described as "people who do not share what they regard as the central symbols of the society invariably view themselves as a minority". In the Indian context, minority and majority status is a matter of self-ascription. What could be a minority from one perspective could be a majority from another. Thus the problem of minorities is complex in India.

Q. 4. Is caste a dying institution in the Indian Society? What factors are responsible for the eradication/reinforcement of the institution of caste in India?

Ans. The word 'caste' is derived from the Portuguese word 'casta' signifying breed, race or kind. According to Hindu tradition the caste system owes its origin to the four 'Varnas', derived from the *Brahmin*, who is supposed to have come from the mouth of the deity, the *Kshatriya* who was created from his arms, the *Vaishya* who was formed from his stomach, the *Sudra* born from his feet.

Caste is a fundamental aspect of the social structure in India. Along with the economic foundation upon which it is based, caste forms a major parametric variable of the Indian political system. The role of caste in political dynamics is gradually increasing. A major factor in reinforcing the role of caste is its importance in competitive politics. Political parties and politicians endeavour to mobilise social groups to build as wide a support base for themselves as possible. Caste is one of the

most easily identifiable social clusters whose members can be motivated for collective or parallel action. Therefore, politicians remain keen to exploit this factor for their own gain. Observation of voting behaviour has shown that caste is generally perceived as providing "an extensive basis for mobilizing support in politics and elections". The concept of 'vote bank' is popular with politicians. However, the influence of caste becomes lesser as one moves up the political hierarchy. At higher levels, constituencies become larger in geographical spread and increasingly multicaste in their social composition and further, as non-personal and secular issues begin to overshadow immediate personal and sectional interests. Thus, politics at the State level becomes less 'casteist' than at the village level. At the national level, the incidence is marginal rather than decisive.

The importance of caste varies from State to State and from region to region. Some States are more susceptible to influence of caste than others.

A number of scholars and journalists find in caste a complete explanation of the nature of political activity in India. These people project caste as the sole or definitive determinant of political, and more especially voting, behaviour. This is not completely true. Caste remains an important variable but it is not the only factor that determines political activity. Politicization of caste has changed its character and there have been certain developments that have changed its operations. One noteworthy structural change is the formation of caste associations and caste federations. This is a direct outcome of the adjustment that caste has had to make as an actor in competitive politics.

Other manifestations of caste politicization in India are the more recent but fast growing assertiveness of landowning middle castes and increasing mobilization into politics of lower castes.

The caste system has persisted through successive changes of political authority. It has gone through various changes. Caste is no longer inevitably

linked with occupation. Although still a major hold in rural India, caste has been gradually losing its hold in urban areas. Social change and some amount of legislation helps in weakening the foundation of caste. Modernization of India—industrialization, mechanization of agriculture and Green Revolution, changing socio-economic milieu and the working of participatory democracy help in lessening the dominance of castes.

Caste, therefore, remains an important but not the primary dominant factor in the Indian social structure. It is not a dying institution, though one that has been gradually loosening its hold. It has been reinforced by the role of politics. Another factor that plays a major role is the reservation at all levels on the basis of caste. This also adds momentum to the institution of caste.

Caste is inherently restrictive, inequalitarian, fissiparous and its hold on democratic politics will have to be broken before the political process can become a vehicle for social transformation.

Q. 5. Discuss the problems of scheduled tribes in India. Do you see a conflict between maintaining tribal identity and bringing the tribes into the mainstream of Indian society?

Ans. Scheduled tribes still form a backward class in India. Tribal and hill areas are quite backward as compared to other regions. The North Eastern region is one such main region. People living in Assam, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland complain that proper attention has not been paid towards their development. These regions are geographically important because the boundaries of Assam, Manipur and Tripura touch China, Burma and Bangladesh. Tea, oil and minerals are found in abundance in these States but the people of these States are not satisfied as regards the development of industries related to these products.

A programme under the name of 'pilot project' was started in 1971-72 for the development of the tribal areas of Bihar,

Uttar Pradesh and Orissa but the condition of these regions is very bad even today. Santhal Pargana, a tribal region of Bihar is very perturbed by the Forest Policy of the government. Tribal people work on daily wages with contractors. They are paid very low wages. In the tribal regions of Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, the condition of the people is very bad and people are victims of exploitation even today.

Even the hilly areas of Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir have not developed properly even though the Government has made several plans for the development of these regions. The benefits of these plans have not reached every person.

Neglect of such areas causes problems of regional imbalance. This results in a feeling of separatism in these people. It also results in violent movements. There is an increasing demand in States for more autonomy. Besides, there is an increase in demand for separate States. This also results in a greater tension between Centre and States. Inter-State tensions, social tensions and tensions in big cities become common. Regionalism assumes four main forms in the political field: (a) secession from the Indian Union (b) demand for separate Statehood (c) demand for full-fledged Statehood (d) inter-State disputes.

Bringing the tribes into the mainstream involves a greater number of complications than is obvious, especially when their identity has to be maintained. To bring them into the mainstream, they have to be given equal rights with respect to education, voting, basic amenities in society, residence. However, giving or maintaining their identity implies that they still remain a little separate from the rest of the society. Therefore, while bringing them into the mainstream would not be a problem in itself, if this has to be balanced with maintaining their identity then this would include giving them special rights. This can be made possible if the concerned authorities are careful in formulating such policies and making sure that these do not result in creation of dividing forces in society.

MANAGEMENT

Business G.K.

We continue our series on Business GK to help you prepare for MBA entrance tests and interviews.

COMPANY INITIALS

What do the initials after the names of companies mean? You can figure out the country which the company belongs to if you know the meaning of the letters:

Initials	Country	Meaning
Ltd.	India	Public Limited Company
AB	Sweden	Incorporated (Aktiebolag)
AG	Germany	Incorporated (Aktiengesellschaft)
A/S	Norway	Incorporated (Aksjeselskap)
Bhd	Malaysia	Incorporated (Berhad)
Cia	Spain	Company (Compania)
Cie.	France	Company (Compagnie)
GmbH	Germany	Limited Liability Company (Gesellschaft mit beschränkter Haftung)
KK	Japan	Joint Stock Corporation (Kabushiki Kaisha)
Ltda.	Latin countries	Limited Liability Company (Limitada)
NV	Netherlands	Incorporated (Naamlose Vennootschap)
Oy	Finland	Incorporated (Osakeyhtiö)
PLC or Ltd	Britain	Public Limited Company
PT.	Indonesia	Limited Company (Perusahaan Terbatas)
Pte	Singapore	Private Limited Company
Pty	Australia	Proprietary
SA	France, Spain, etc	Incorporated (Societe Anonyme/Sociedad Anonima)
S.A.R.L.	Brazil	Incorporated (Sociedade Anonima de Responsabilidade Limitada)
SPA	Italy	Incorporated (Societa per Azioni)

QUESTIONS

Q. Which company is to be merged with Hindustan Lever?

A. Hindustan Lever Ltd and Brooke Bond India Ltd, the Indian subsidiaries of Anglo-Dutch company Unilever Plc, will merge to form India's biggest consumer goods cum foods company. HLL is India's largest corporate in the household and personal care sector with a turnover of Rs 3,775 crore for the year ended December

1995. Brooke Bond is the leading foods and beverages company with a turnover of Rs 2,108 crore. The merger will make the conglomerate into the third largest private sector company, after Reliance and Telco. The export earnings of the two companies amounted to Rs 845 crore and it may also emerge as the largest export earner in the country.

Q. Which State tops in per capita income?

A. Punjab tops the list of major Indian States in terms of per capita annual income with Rs 12,319. It is followed by Maharashtra with Rs 10,984 and Haryana with Rs 10,359. The States with the lowest per capita income are Orissa with Rs 4,726, J&K with Rs 4,244 and Bihar with Rs 3,650, which is just Rs 10 per day.

Q. Which companies will be affected by auto-emission norms?

A. Though the deadline for auto-emission norms existed, nobody expected that it would be implemented. But the norms came into effect from April 1, 1996 and manufacturers have to curtail production of models that emit higher level of polluting gases than permitted. Premier Automobiles will have to cut production of its petrol cars and Maruti's Gypsy will be affected. Petrol models of Ambassador and Contessa, M&M's petrol jeep and 100 cc motorcycles of Bajaj and Yamaha will be stopped too. Hero Motors will not be able to market its BMW 650 motorcycle without modifications.

Q. What is the "Year 2000" problem?

A. The "Year 2000" problem relates to the technical difficulties expected to be faced by almost all system users when the century changes from 1999 to 2000. Computer systems are not programmed to recognise 2000 and when the year changes, will shift their internal calendar to 1900. Banking and insurance sectors will find all their data go wrong if the problem is not corrected. HCL Corporation has tied up with James Martin & Co of USA to form a new company HCL James Martin Inc, which will provide "Year 2000" solutions worldwide.

Q. Which company plans to market Chyawanprash toffees?

A. United Breweries (UB) Group will be launching herbal health and beauty care products from their Calcutta based company, Carew Pharmaceuticals. Its product 'UB Fit' is Chyawanprash packaged like a toffee, promising convenience of use.

Q. Which Indian paper is tying up with Daily Mirror of UK?

A. Blitz, the Karanja-owned paper, is tying up with Daily Mirror for production and editorial collaboration.

Q. What is "Green India 2047" project?

A. The "Green India 2047" project is a project of the Tata Energy Research Institute (TERI). It was launched last year to develop strategies to manage natural resources efficiently, sustainably and concurrently with overall economic development efforts during the next 50 years. An interim report by the institute says that health costs arising from air pollution costs the nation about Rs 6,800 crore every year.

Q. Which Indian company is tying up with Fuji Electric of Japan?

A. Fuji Electric Ltd of Japan has set up a joint venture with Thermax Ltd to manufacture and market process control equipment.

Q. Which is the most expensive city in the world with regard to rent of offices?

A. Bombay retains its position as the most expensive city in the world to rent prime office space in 1995. Tokyo and Hong Kong were second and third. Occupation costs in Bombay averaged \$ 1,799 per sq. metre while the figure for Tokyo was \$ 1,408. The World Rentals Survey was carried out by property consultants Richard Elli International.

Q. Which Indian family is highest on the list of Britain's rich people?

A. According to the 1996 *Sunday Times* list of Britain's rich, Hinduja is on the eighth position and Swaraj Paul is 3rd. Interestingly, the Queen of England is now at 6th position.

Q. What is the new name of the B.K. Modi group of companies?

A. The Rs 2,000 crore B.K. Modi group of companies will be known as ModiCorp. It will be a separate entity with an equity base of Rs 100 crore. The group's headquarters will be moved from New Delhi to Bombay.

Q. What is MANTRA?

A. The Madras Automated Networked Trading (MANTRA) is the automated trading system of the Madras Stock Exchange which is being implemented for better efficiency. Members can now operate from their offices but still be constantly in touch with the exchange.

Q. What is the name of the Chinese TV service launched by Rupert Murdoch?

A. Phoenix Satellite Television, a Mandarin Chinese TV service, has been launched as a joint venture between Star TV and two Hong Kong parties. Star TV is losing \$ 100 million a year and Chinese advertising revenue will be even more uncertain to get, given the government control.

Q. Which company owns the brand name of Ultima tyres?

A. JK Industries Ltd

Q. Which companies are being taken over by the German conglomerate Henkel?

A. Henkel is taking over two companies of the Shaw Wallace group, Detergents India and Calcutta Chemical Co through SPIC

Fine Chemicals Ltd. Henkel is already in the detergents business with its brands Zymo, Henko and White Giant and the new companies will give it a strong distribution network. The company will also acquire two brands, Margo soap and Chek detergent as a result of this deal.

Q. Which company is Russi Mody becoming the chairman of?

A. Russi Modi is taking over as chairman of the Rs 800 crore Lanco Steels Ltd in Andhra Pradesh. While continuing as chairman of Air India, Mody plans to build a steel city in Chittoor.

Q. Which company has taken over Mazda?

A. Japan's fifth largest car maker has been taken over by Ford, the world's biggest car maker. Ford's vice president, Henry Wallace becomes president of Mazda, the first foreigner to head a Japanese company. Mazda had been in trouble for some time with capacity utilisation reduced to 45 per cent and huge losses. The deal was Mazda's only hope of survival.

Q. Which company is changing its colour to blue?

A. Pepsi. It has launched Project Blue, an advertising campaign costing \$ 500 million, which included painting a Concorde blue. Pepsi will abandon its red, white and blue logo for a predominantly blue one. The company is also advertising in space. The colour will be launched in India in 1997.

Q. With which company has Toshiba tied up to make video cassette players?

A. Videocon. Toshiba has decided to stop manufacturing VCPs in Japan and will instead source them from China and India. It plans to import one million VCPs per year and in the first year 23% will be from India, increasing to 60% subsequently.

Q. Which Asian countries have the highest level of risk for business?

A. Vietnam tops the list of Asian countries with the highest level of risk for business, while Singapore carries the least risk, according to a study by the Hong Kong based Political and Economic Risk Consultancy. Vietnam had a score of 6.43 out of 10 making it the highest risk country. India scored 5.90 and ranked second in business risk, followed by Philippines with 5.63 and Indonesia with 5.59. The least risk countries are Singapore at 2.53 followed by Japan with 2.85 and Hong Kong at 2.91. The report said that systemic and socio-political risk was highest in Vietnam, China and India. Corruption was also a problematic area. Social risks have increased in Thailand, Taiwan, Korea and Indonesia but highest in India and the risk of labour unrest highest in Korea.

Q. Who has won Japan's order of the Rising Sun?

A. Indian industrialist S.P. Godrej was honoured with Japan's Order of the Rising Sun, a high imperial privilege, for helping Japanese companies enter the Indian markets. He is among 30 foreign dignitaries on whom the imperial honour has been conferred.

ADMISSION ALERT

This feature alerts our readers to forthcoming examinations and admissions. Institutes should send us information well in advance to be included here. Readers are advised to assess their own suitability before applying—this feature is not a recommendation of any course or institute.

Computers

1. Master of Computer Applications (MCA)—(3 year, full time). Eligibility: Graduation with 50% marks and one of the subjects Physics, Maths or Stats. Written test: June 30, 1996. Last date: June 10, 1996. Apply to: Registrar Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology, Patiala with a DD of Rs 150.

2. MCA—(3 years). Eligibility: Bachelor's degree with minimum 60% marks and maths in class 1. Written test: June 15, 1996. Last date: May 24, 1996. Apply to: Registrar Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak with a DD of Rs 320.

Defence

Combined Defence Services Exam—To be held on October 6, 1996. Last date: June 10, 1996. Apply on the prescribed format to: Secretary, Union Public Service Commission, Dholpur House, New Delhi - 110 011. For details see advt published on April 20, 1996.

Fashion Technology and Design

1. Post/Undergraduate Programmes in Fashion Design—Last date: June 5, 1996. Apply to: Pearl Academy of Fashion, C-56/2 Okhla Industrial Area Phase II, New Delhi - 110 020 with a DD of Rs 400.

2. Courses in Fashion Technology—Apply to: JD Institute of Fashion Technology, Lokayata, Hauz Khas Village, New Delhi - 110 016.

3. Professional Design Courses for Women (4 years and 1 year)—Eligibility: Class 12 for 4 year and graduation for 1 year course. Written test: May 19, 1996. Apply to: Principal, Apeejay Institute of Design, 54 Tughlakabad Institutional Area, New Delhi - 110 062 with a DD of Rs 150.

Film Production

Diploma in Film Production—(1 year, correspondence). Eligibility: Class 12. Apply to: School of Foto Film and Television, B-2/20 C Lawrence Road, New Delhi - 110 035.

Hotel Management

1. Bachelor's degree and Diploma in Hotel Management—Eligibility: Class 12. Apply to: Presidency College of Hotel Management c/o Harsha Hotel, Perk Road, Shivajinagar Bangalore - 560 051 with a DD of Rs 200.

2. B.Sc Hotel Management and Catering Sciences—Eligibility: Minimum 50% marks in Class 12. Apply to: Principal, Subbalakshmi Lakshminipathy College of Science, TVR Nagar, Madurai - 625 022 with a DD of Rs 150.

3. Diploma in Hotel Management (3 years)—Eligibility: Class 12 and age 22 years. Apply on the prescribed format to: Institute of Hotel Management 11 RA Lines The Mall Meerut Centt - 250 001 with a DD of Rs 400.

Journalism

1. Post-graduate Training Course in Journalism (1 year)—Eligibility:

Graduate in any discipline and maximum age 25 years. Written test: June 16, 1996. Last date: May 25, 1996. Apply to: The Dean, Asian College of Journalism, Express Building 1 Queen's Road, Bangalore - 560 001 with a self-addressed stamped envelope.

2. MA in Mass Communication—Eligibility: Graduation with minimum 50% marks, age limit 30 years. Last date: May 27, 1996. Apply to: Mass Communication Research Centre, Jamia Millie Islamia, New Delhi - 25 with a DD of Rs 30.

Management

1. Bachelor and Master of Business Administration (BBM and MBA)—Eligibility: Class 12 for BBM and graduation for MBA. Apply to: Registrar Admission, Garden City College, 9 BCIE, Old Madras Road, Doorvaninagar, Bangalore - 560 016.

2. Master of Business Economics—Eligibility: Graduates with minimum 50% marks. Written test: June 19, 1996. Last date: June 1, 1996. Apply to: Registrar, GJ University, Hisar with a DD of Rs 60.

3. Post-graduate diploma in Hospital Management (2 years)—Eligibility: Graduates with minimum 50% marks. Written test: MAT on July 8, 1996. Last date: June 3, 1996. Apply to: Indian Institute of Health Management Research, 1 Prabhu Dayal Marg, Sanganer, Jaipur - 302 011 with a DD of Rs 350.

4. BBA/MB—Eligibility: Class 12 for BBA and graduation for MBA. No written test. Interview and GD on June 15, 1996. Apply to: Prestige Institute of Management and Research, 5 Press Complex, AB Road, Indore - 452 008 with a DD of Rs 200.

Distance Learning

MBA (3 years)—Eligibility: Graduate aged 25 years with 50% marks and 3 years working experience. Last date: June 26, 1996. Apply to: The Director, Directorate of Distance Education, Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar - 608 002 with a DD of Rs 200.

Scholarships

London School of Economics Scholarship Fund—Three scholarships available to candidates who have secured admission to LSE for post graduate or research course. Last date: June 10, 1996. Apply to: Shri Madhav Bhatkuly, Trustee LSE Scholarship Fund, 5 Adarsh, 94 Walkeshwar Road, Bombay - 400 006.

Social Work

MA in Social Work—Eligibility: Graduation with minimum 50% marks. Written test: July 16, 1996. Last date: June 17, 1996. Apply to: Manager Printing & Publications, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra - 132 119 with a DD of Rs 65.

Tourism

Master of Tourism Management (MTA)—(2 year, full time). Eligibility: Bachelor's degree. Written test: June 9, 1996. Last date: May 30, 1996. Apply to: Institute of Tourism Studies, University of Lucknow, Lucknow with a DD of Rs 370.

VOCABULARY

Improve Your Word Power

- 1 **acme:** (a) height (b) depth (c) scarcity (d) innocence
- 2 **bugbear:** (a) witness (b) trial (c) fear (d) trouble
- 3 **carnage** (a) mercy (b) sensation (c) sentimental (d) massacre
- 4 **dogged:** (a) determined (b) flexible (c) rigid (d) sentimental
- 5 **epitaph:** (a) inscription (b) manners (c) method (d) madness
- 6 **frolic** (a) gamble (b) play (c) avoid (d) advise
- 7 **graft:** (a) deception (b) hard work (c) reception (d) holy water
- 8 **hustings** (a) political campaigning (b) social work (c) blood donation (d) forcible occupation
- 9 **ineluctable** (a) doubtful (b) negligent (c) interesting (d) inescapable
- 10 **kook:** (a) silent worker (b) sleeping partner (c) angry mob (d) crazy person
- 11 **lynch:** (a) escape (b) judge (c) kill (d) forgive
- 12 **mealy-mouthed** (a) talkative (b) evasive (c) suggestive (d) impressive
- 13 **noblesse** (a) down trodden (b) audience (c) gentry (d) workers
- 14 **ordain** (a) decide (b) digest (c) reject (d) accept
- 15 **putrescent** (a) ripening (b) swelling (c) contracting (d) rotting
- 16 **quietus** (a) birth (b) merry-making (c) death (d) inauguration
- 17 **refurbish** (a) remember (b) redecorate (c) rejoice (d) repent
- 18 **snivel** (a) cry (b) create (c) carry (d) regulate
- 19 **tamper** (a) invest (b) interfere (c) irritate (d) invent
- 20 **usher** (a) undergo (b) embarrass (c) herald (d) swear

ANSWERS

- 1 **acme:** (a) height, perfection
—The fiction writer's penetrating irony has placed him at the *acme* of realism which is both manifold and variegated
- 2 **bugbear:** (c) fear, bogey
—For any economic reform to bear fruit, re-appearance of inflation is every government's main *bugbear*
- 3 **carnage:** (d) massacre, slaughter
—A battle-field is usually the scene of *carnage*, which only the soldiers witness and live with
- 4 **dogged:** (a) determined
—Although he is talented, he won by sheer *dogged* persistence
- 5 **epitaph:** (a) inscription, writing
—Somehow *epitaphs* and epigrams (sayings) often go together, leaving so little space for the truth

- 6 **frolic:** (b) play, gambol, romp
—While the seniors were racing around in their motorised fishing boats, their families were *frolicking* about in the surf nearer shore
- 7 **graft:** (b) hard work
—*Graft* and not mere chance is the only way to succeed in business
- 8 **hustings:** (a) political campaigning
—In view of the general elections, most politicians will be at or on the *hustings* in the coming weeks
- 9 **ineluctable:** (d) inescapable, inevitable
—As human beings, we are the *ineluctable* victims of our ultimate fate—the death
- 10 **kook:** (d) crazy person, eccentric
—In every social set-up, we come across normal persons as well as *kooks*
- 11 **lynch:** (c) kill, punish violently
—In the Middle Ages, heretics and witches were *lynched* to death by the agitated mobs
- 12 **mealy-mouthed:** (b) evasive, insincere
—Hardened criminals became *mealy mouthed*. They seldom tell the truth or the facts of the matter
- 13 **noblesse:** (c) gentry upper class
—The heart-rending disintegration of the *noblesse* provokes her to have a dig at the *nouveau riche* class (neo rich)
- 14 **ordain:** (a) decide, predetermine
—Dame fortune *ordains* the course of life whereas death obliterates it
- 15 **putrescent** (d) rotting
—Her writings centre around a *putrescent* culture with a deep melancholic sense of dislocation
- 16 **quietus:** (c) death extinction
—It is a pity that many a precious species is facing *quietus* at the hands of greedy hunters and poachers
- 17 **refurbish:** (b) redecorate, make clean or bright
—With all means at its command, the ruling party tries to *refurbish* its image before the elections
- 18 **snivel:** (a) cry, complain
—She is always found *snivelling* about her unhappy childhood
- 19 **tamper:** (b) meddle, interfere
—The fears of the suspect that police would *tamper* with the evidence, were found unreasonable by the judge
- 20 **usher:** (c) herald, introduce
—Economists feel that economic reforms, if implemented in all earnestness and sincerity would *usher* in a period of prosperity in India in the near future

General Studies Scene

Q. 1. Briefly describe the tax reforms introduced in India after 1991. Do you think that these reforms have achieved their objectives?

Ans. With the coming of the Rao Government in 1991, the policy of liberalisation and globalisation of Indian Industrial Sector was initiated. One of the aspects was rationalisation of tax-structure which was considered to be unduly imbalanced. The basic aim of tax-reforms was simplicity, moderation of rates, equity and efficient enforcement. At the same time the aim was also to reduce the rates to encourage the industries to flourish. Mainly guided by Raja Chaliah Committee recommendations, the tax reforms have been effected in both direct as well as indirect taxes.

Considering the direct taxes first, in the field of personal income tax, the exemption limit, which was Rs 22000 in 1991, is now Rs 40,000 and number of slabs has been reduced from 4 to 3. Maximum rate of taxation, which was 56 per cent in 1991, stands at just 40 per cent now. To bring more persons in the tax net, a presumptive tax in the form of a lump sum tax has been introduced for small traders and small road transport operators. Similarly, reforms were also introduced in the Corporate taxation where the tax rate has been reduced from 51.75 and 57.5 per cent to 46 per cent. This 46 per cent also includes 15 per cent surcharge. Long-term capital-gains tax on the domestic companies has also been slashed from 40 per cent to 30 per cent. The tax rate on foreign companies was also reduced from 65 per cent to 55 per cent. Moreover, during the budget for 1994-95, the Government introduced a 15-year tax holiday for investment in infrastructure including airports, highways, power generation, hardware/software parks etc.

In the field of indirect taxes also, certain important changes/reforms have been introduced. The maximum rate of custom duties, which was over 300 per cent in some cases prior to reforms, has been rapidly reduced in a phased manner to 50 per cent now. Similarly, import duty on capital goods and machinery has been reduced to 25 per cent, from 85 per cent in 1991. The number of customs duty rates has also been brought down to just 12 now. In case of excise duty also the number of these rates has been reduced to only 10. There is a general switchover towards *ad valorem* excise duty with fewer rates and exemptions. Industries manufacturing capital goods, quality control equipments, POL, spun yarn from fibres and R & D equipment have been included in MODVAT scheme.

The above changes/reforms in taxation have largely corrected the imbalance in the structure of sources of revenue. It has

also made the direct taxation more equitable and efficient. Despite reduction in the rates and slabs of direct taxes, their share in the GDP increased appreciably from 2.1 per cent in 1990-91 to 2.9 per cent in 1995-96. Similarly the share of direct taxes in the gross tax revenue of the Union Government rose smartly from 19 per cent to 29 per cent during the same period. These reforms also helped in achieving other macro-economic targets of the economy. Due to increased tax revenue, the pressure on fiscal deficit was reduced and was properly contained. Industrial growth rate and exports have been increasing remarkably for the last about 3 years now. The overall rate of growth of the economy is also rising and expected to be around 6 per cent during the year 1995-96. Foreign exchange reserves are also at a comfortable level. Hence, it can safely be said that the envisaged objectives of tax reforms have been achieved and the ongoing process would result in much better performance in the future.

Q. 2. Discuss in detail the "Right to Equality of Opportunity" in the matters of public employment provided in the Indian Constitution. Do you think that the policy of reservation runs in contradiction with this fundamental right? On the same analogy, can the Government reserve vacancies for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Classes in private jobs also?

Ans. Article 16 of the Indian Constitution provides to the citizens of India the right to equality of opportunity in the matters of employment to any office under the State and no citizen can be denied the right to public employment only on the ground of religion, race, caste, sex, descent and place of birth. This means that every citizen has the right to equal opportunity in such matters. However, the Constitution also provides certain exceptions to this fundamental right, some of which are discussed as under:

(a) There are exceptions where the Governments have enacted some laws restricting the employment in certain cases to the persons who are not the residents of that particular State.

(b) The State, under Article 16(4), has the right to reserve any post or appointment in favour of any backward class of citizens who are not adequately represented in the services of the State.

(c) The Constitution also holds that the claims of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes will be considered by the State for appointment to public services, while also maintaining the efficiency of services and administration. But, it has been held by the Supreme Court that the need to maintain efficiency of ad

ministration, as envisaged in Article 335, does not impose any limitation upon the power of the State to make reservations.

(d) The State may also reserve some particular posts connected with some religious institutions for the citizen of the same religion.

On the basis of above, it can be said that the policy of reservation for the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and other Backward classes does not violate the constitutional provision under Article 16. A careful perusal of the provisions of Article 16 reveals that it prohibits discrimination in the matters of public employment only on the grounds mentioned in the Constitution. Hence, the constitutional provisions are violated only if discrimination is made on the basis of race, religion, sex, place of birth, etc. There is no bar on reservation to the backward classes and SC/ST population.

During the recent years, there is a talk about providing reservation in services in the matters of private employment too. Some of the political parties have even included this aspect in their election manifesto for the 1996 Lok Sabha Elections. It is apparent that the Constitution provides for reservation of vacancies only in the matters of employment and appointment under the State. No specific provision exists for reservation in the private jobs. But, there is no particular provision barring such a reservation also. Under such circumstances, if the Government wants to introduce reservation in the private jobs also, it may do so by enacting a separate legislation on this issue. Such a legislation would have to stand the judicial review, as it may be branded as ultra-vires of the Constitution, or even intending to change the basic structure of the Constitution. Such a legislation may be difficult to enforce with the existing enforcement machinery and separate department may have to be opened to ensure the reservation in the prescribed percentages.

Q. 3. Describe various administrative and economic policy changes in British India after the revolt of 1857.

Ans. The revolt of 1857 made the Britishers realise for the first time that they could not continue with their old administrative system and policies and it became imperative for them to introduce some changes in a gradual manner. Following are some changes made after 1857.

(a) Changes in Administration and Administrative Policies: One of the most significant changes was the transfer of power from East India Company to the British Crown in 1858. The authority over India was transferred to a newly appointed Secretary of State for India aided by a Council. The Secretary of State was a Cabinet Minister and was responsible to the British Parliament. The administration was to run through Viceroy to be appointed by the British Government. The administration became less responsive and curbed the liberties of the masses further. Indian Councils Act 1861 also increased the power of the Viceroy (also called the Governor General) by authorising the Governor General's Council to make laws. Hence, executive and legislative powers were vested in one authority only, as the Legislative

Council had no control over the nominated Executive Council. For the purpose of administration, the country was divided in several provinces and three presidencies of Bombay, Madras and Bengal. Local bodies, such as Municipalities and district boards, were framed between 1864 and 1868. The nominated members of these bodies had no say in the matters of importance, which were decided by the District Magistrate. There were no developmental policies worth its name. The Government pursued the policy of divide and rule and took the advantage of disunity among the Indians. They tried to put caste against caste, religion against religion, groups against groups and princes against people. British hostility towards educated Indians also came to the fore after 1857, as it was perceived that this group actively worked against British empire in the revolt. Britishers, instead turned towards Princes, Zamindars and Landlords. The previous assistance provided to social reformers also ceased to come forth. No social reforms were introduced and instead stringent anti-labour legislations were introduced to further the interests of Britishers. The Vernacular Press Act of 1878 tried to gag the press by imposing serious restrictions.

(b) Changes in the Army: A careful re-organisation of Indian Army was done to ensure that no revolts took place in future. Domination of the Army by the Europeans was continued unabated and proportion of Europeans was increased. Pure European troops were kept at key locations. Artillery and tanks were kept under the exclusive control of Europeans. Upto 1914, no Indian was allowed to rise to the rank of a commissioned officer and highest they could go was upto Subedar. The soldiers from UP, Bihar and Central India, who opposed the British, were declared non-martial, while the other who supported them were called martial and were recruited in large numbers.

(c) Economic Policy: After 1857, the economic exploitation of India was stepped up. India was relegated to the position of cheap raw-material supplier to support the industrial revolution of Britain during the 19th Century. Excessive revenue taxation, contract farming and grabbing of lands by Zamindars was the prominent feature of British economic policy. There was a total ruin of Indian artisans and craftsmen.

(d) Foreign Policy: The Britishers followed a foreign policy which suited the crown, without bothering about the interests of India. Their desire to defend their Indian Empire, promote their economic interests and to keep the other European powers at a distance often resulted in British clashing with Indian neighbours like Nepal, Burma and Afghanistan.

(e) Public Service: The entire administration was controlled by the Indian Civil Service, the examination to which took place in England. Hence, the entry to this service remained virtually denied to Indians. To the disadvantage of Indians, in 1878, the upper age limit to the ICS was reduced to 19 years, making it even more difficult for Indians. Even in other departments, lower posts were given to the Indians while the important and highly paid ones were held by the Europeans.

Quantitative Aptitude

1. The value of $\frac{2^{k+1} + 2^k}{2^{k+2} - 2^{k+1}}$ is:

- (a) $\frac{1}{2}$ (b) $2^{\frac{k-1}{k+1}}$
 (c) $\frac{3}{2}$ (d) None of these

2. $\frac{(685 + 416)^2 + (685 - 416)^2}{685 \times 685 + 416 \times 416}$ is equal to.

- (a) 2 (b) 1 (c) 685 (d) 1125

3. The largest number of five digits which is divisible by 99 is

- (a) 99999 (b) 99990
 (c) 99981 (d) 99909

4. The value of $\frac{3\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{6} - \sqrt{3}} - \frac{4\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{6} - \sqrt{2}} + \frac{6}{\sqrt{18} + \sqrt{12}}$ is:

- (a) 0 (b) 1
 (c) $\sqrt{3} - \sqrt{2}$ (d) $\sqrt{6} - \sqrt{3}$

5. $3^{25} + 3^{26} + 3^{27} + 3^{28}$ is divisible by

- (a) 23 (b) 11 (c) 19 (d) 10

6. If $a = 2.7$, $b = 3$, $c = -5$ then the value of $a^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 3abc$ is:

- (a) 789 (b) 0
 (c) 1235 (d) None of these

7. A lady has only 25 paise and 50 paise coins in her purse. If in all, she has 40 coins totalling Rs 12.75, then the no. of 50 paise coins is.

- (a) 15 (b) 17
 (c) 11 (d) None of these

8. The present age of a father is 3 years more than three times the age of son. Three years hence, father's age will be 10 years more than twice the age of the son. The father's present age is.

- (a) 33 yrs (b) 45 yrs
 (c) 39 yrs (d) None of these

9. A fraction is such that if the numerator is multiplied by 3 and the denominator be reduced by 3, we get $\frac{18}{11}$ but if the numerator is increased by 8 and denominator is doubled, we get $\frac{2}{5}$. The fraction is:

- (a) $\frac{13}{17}$ (b) $\frac{12}{25}$
 (c) $\frac{11}{15}$ (d) None of these

10. Seven times a two-digit number is equal to four times the number obtained by reversing the digits. Sum of digits is 3. Find the number.

- (a) 12 (b) 21 (c) 34
 (d) None of these

11. Divide 155 into four parts such that if the first part be diminished by 4, the second be increased by 5, the third be divided by 2 and the fourth be multiplied by 3, the result is the same. The first part will be:

- (a) 72 (b) 40 (c) 31 (d) 12

12. A man rowing at the rate of 5 km/hr in still water takes thrice as much time in going 40 km up the river as in going 40 km down. Find the rate at which the river flows

- (a) 10 km/hr (b) 15 km/hr
 (c) 12 km/hr (d) 14 km/hr

13. A farmer sold a calf and a cow for Rs 760, thereby making a profit of 25% on the calf and 10% on the cow. By selling them for Rs 767.50, he would have realised a profit of 10% on the calf and 25% on the cow. Find the cost of cow.

- (a) Rs 300 (b) Rs 350
 (c) Rs 450 (d) Rs 600

14. The population of a town is 50000. If in a year, the number of males were to increase by 5% and that of females by 3% annually, the population would grow to be 52020. Find the number of males

- (a) 20000 (b) 35000
 (c) 26000 (d) 22000

15. If x is 20% more than y , then y is how much per cent less than x ?

- (a) $16\frac{2}{3}\%$ (b) 12% (c) 20% (d) 10%

16. If the income tax be reduced from $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ to $3\frac{1}{3}\%$ what difference does it make to a man whose annual income is Rs 8400?

- (a) Rs 20 (b) Rs 15 (c) Rs 10 (d) Rs 14

17. A and B undertake to do a piece of work for Rs 200. A can do it in 6 days and B in 8 days, with the assistance of C, they finish it in 3 days. How much money will C get?

- (a) Rs 25 (b) Rs 40 (c) Rs 32 (d) Rs 49

18. Two pipes A and B would fill a cistern in 30 and 36 minutes respectively. Both pipes being opened, find when the first pipe must be turned off so that the cistern may be just filled in 18 minutes.

- (a) after 15 minutes (b) after 10 minutes
 (c) after 14 minutes (d) after 12 minutes

19. Find the least no. by which 8250 must be multiplied in order to produce a multiple of 715

- (a) 13 (b) 15 (c) 11 (d) 17

20. A man and a boy received Rs 400 as wages for 5 days for the work they did together. The man's skill in the work was three times that of boy. What is the daily wages of a boy?

- (a) Rs 20 (b) Rs 35 (c) Rs 22 (d) Rs 28

21. For what value of k the number $37k414$ is divisible by 11

- (a) 2 (b) 0 (c) 3 (d) 1

22. Simplify $\frac{3}{4}$ of $(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{2}) + \frac{1}{7}$ of $\frac{3\frac{1}{5}}{1\frac{1}{14}}$

- (a) 1 (b) $21\frac{1}{3}$ (c) $2\frac{11}{32}$ (d) 0

23. A boy on being asked what $\frac{6}{7}$ of a certain fraction was, made the mistake of dividing the fraction by $\frac{6}{7}$ and so got an answer which exceeded the correct answer by $\frac{39}{210}$. Find the fraction

- (a) $\frac{2}{3}$ (b) $\frac{4}{5}$ (c) $\frac{7}{9}$ (d) $\frac{3}{5}$

24. $(4\frac{11}{15} + \frac{15}{71})^2 - (4\frac{11}{15} - \frac{15}{71})^2 = ?$

- (a) 1 (b) $\frac{3}{5}$
(c) 4 (d) None of these

25. A man sold a horse at 7% loss. Had he been able to sell it at a gain of 9% it would have been fetched Rs 64 more than it did. The cost price of horse is:

- (a) Rs 500 (b) Rs 350
(c) Rs 400 (d) Rs 470

26. The cost price of 10 articles is equal to the selling price of 7 articles. Find the gain or loss per cent

- (a) 51% gain (b) 35% gain
(c) $42\frac{6}{7}\%$ gain (d) 32% loss

27. The ratio of speeds of two trains, one travelling at 45 km/hr and the other at 10 m/sec is:

- (a) 5 : 4 (b) 2 : 3
(c) 3 : 4 (d) 4 : 3

28. 3 years ago, the average age of a family of 5 members is 17 years. A baby having been born, the average of the family is the same today. The present age of the baby is:

- (a) 2 years (b) 3 years
(c) 1 year (d) $1\frac{1}{2}$ years

29. After replacing an old member by a new member

it was found that the average age of 5 members of a club is the same as it was 3 years ago. What is the difference between the ages of a replaced and new member?

- (a) 15 years (b) 10 years
(c) 7 years (d) 12 years

30. A started a business with Rs 21000 and is joined afterwards by B with Rs 36000. After how many months did B join, if the profits at the end of the year are divided equally?

- (a) 6 months (b) 5 months
(c) 7 months (d) 4 months

31. Gold is 19 times as heavy as water and copper is 9 times as heavy as water. In what ratio should these be mixed to get an alloy 16 times as heavy as water?

- (a) 4 : 5 (b) 5 : 4 (c) 3 : 7 (d) 7 : 3

32. The marks obtained by Ram and Shyam are in the ratio 3 : 4 and those obtained by Shyam and Mohan are in the ratio 6 : 7. The marks obtained by Ram and Mohan are in the ratio of:

- (a) 4 : 7 (b) 2 : 3 (c) 2 : 7 (d) 9 : 14

33. There are 600 boys in a hostel. Each plays either hockey or football or both. If 75% play hockey and 45% play football, how many play both?

- (a) 125 (b) 200 (c) 120 (d) 175

34. How much should a person lend at S.I. of 15% in order to have Rs 784 at the end of $1\frac{1}{2}$ yrs?

- (a) Rs 640 (b) Rs 500
(c) Rs 492 (d) Rs 570

35. What should be the least number of years in which the S.I. on Rs 2600 at $6\frac{2}{3}\%$ will be an exact no. of Rs?

- (a) 5 yrs (b) 3 yrs
(c) 4 yrs (d) $3\frac{1}{2}$ yrs

36. A sum of money placed at C.I. doubles itself in 5 years. It will amount to eight times itself in:

- (a) 10 yrs (b) 15 yrs
(c) 7 yrs (d) 20 yrs

37. If $\log 2 = 0.30103$, then the number of digits in 5^{20} is

- (a) 14 (b) 20 (c) 18

38. A rectangular plot is half as long again as it is broad and its area is $\frac{2}{3}$ hectares. Then its length is

- (a) 120 m (b) 100 m
(c) 150 m (d) 200 m

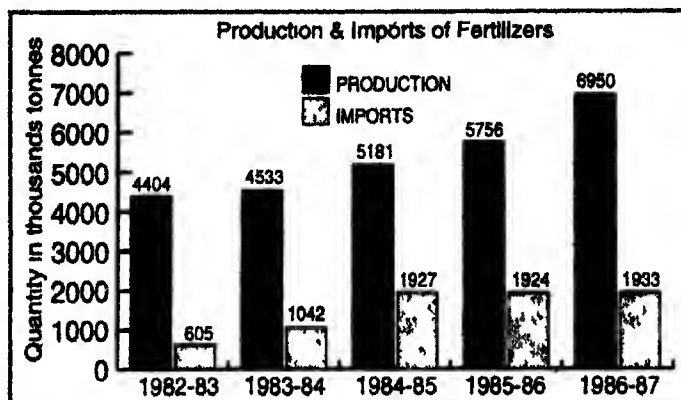
39. The difference between the circumference and radius of a circle is 37 cm. The area of the circle is

- (a) 154 cm^2 (b) 142 cm^2
(c) 127 cm^2 (d) 135 cm^2

40. The altitude of an equilateral triangle of side $3\sqrt{3}$ cm is:

- (a) 4.5 cm (b) 5 cm
(c) 3 cm (d) 4 cm

41-45. The following graph gives the production and imports of fertilizers in various products. Study the graph carefully & answer the questions based on it.



41 What was the percentage decrease in imports from 1984-85 to 1985-86?

- (a) 0.16% (approx) (b) 2% (approx)
(c) 3.2% (approx) (d) 0.12% (approx)

42 What was the average production of fertilizers during the given years?

- (a) 5520 thousand (b) 5364.800 thousand
(c) 4800 thousand (d) None of these

43 In how many years the production more than the average production of given years?

- (a) 2 yrs (b) 3 yrs
(c) 1 yr (d) None of these

44 What was the ratio of production to the import in 1985-86?

- (a) 1 : 2 (b) 2 : 1 (c) 3 : 1 (d) 4 : 5

45 What was the percentage increase in imports from 1982-83 to 1986-87?

- (a) 275% (b) 320%
(c) 189% (d) 219.5%

46-50. Study the following table carefully and answer the following questions:

Source of income	Employees				
	A	B	C	D	E
Salary	400	200	700	300	400
Bonus	80	40	150	80	100
Overtime	180	70	200	170	200
Arrears	200	180	400	140	250
Miscellaneous	40	10	50	10	50
Total	900	500	1500	700	1000

46. Who among the following employees earns maximum bonus in comparison to his total income?

- (a) A (b) B (c) C (d) D
(e) E

47 The income from overtime is what per cent of the income from arrears in the case of employee A?

- (a) 90 (b) 80 (c) 75
(d) 40 (e) None

48 How many employees have their salary less than 3 times the income from bonus?

- (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 4 (d) 3
(e) None

49 Who among the following employees has maximum percentage of his salary out of the total income?

- (a) A (b) B (c) C (d) D
(e) E

50 Who among the following employees has minimum ratio of income from arrears to the income from salary?

- (a) A (b) B (c) C (d) D
(e) E

ANSWERS & EXPLANATIONS

1 (c) Given exp = $\frac{2^k(2+1)}{2^{k+1}(2-1)} - \frac{3}{2}$

2 (a) Given exp $\frac{(a+b)^2 + (a-b)^2}{a^2 + b^2} + \frac{2(a^2 + b^2)}{a^2 + b^2} - 2$

3 (b) On dividing 99999 by 99, R = 9
Reqd no = 99999 - 9 = 99990

4 (a) Given exp = $\frac{3\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{6}-\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{\sqrt{6}+\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{6}+\sqrt{3}} - \frac{4\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{6}-\sqrt{2}}$
 $\times \frac{\sqrt{6}+\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{6}+\sqrt{2}} + \frac{6}{\sqrt{18}+\sqrt{12}} \times \frac{\sqrt{18}-\sqrt{12}}{\sqrt{18}-\sqrt{12}}$
 $= \frac{3(\sqrt{12}+\sqrt{6})}{6-3} - \frac{4(\sqrt{18}+\sqrt{6})}{6-2}$
 $+ \frac{6(\sqrt{18}-\sqrt{12})}{18-12}$
 $= -\sqrt{12} + \sqrt{6} - \sqrt{18} - \sqrt{6} + \sqrt{18} - \sqrt{12} = 0$

5 (d) $3^{25}(1+3+3^2+3^3) = 3^{25} \times 40$ which is divisible by 10

6 (b) $a+b+c = 27+31-58 = 0$
 $a^3+b^3+c^3 - 3abc$ or $a^3+b^3+c^3 - 3abc = 0$

7 (c) Let the no. of 50 paise coins be x
 \therefore The no. of 25 paise coins = 40 - x
 $50x + 25(40-x) = 12.75 \quad x = 11$

8 (a) Let the present ages of a father & son be x & y resp
 $x = 3y + 3$ (i)
 $x + 3 = 2(y + 3) + 10$ (ii)
 Solving (i) & (ii), we get x = 33 yrs

- 9 (b) Let the fraction be $\frac{x}{y}$

$$\text{A TS } \frac{3x}{y-3} = \frac{18}{11} \quad (i)$$

$$\frac{x+8}{2y} = \frac{2}{5} \quad (ii)$$

Solving (i) & (ii) we get

$$x = 12, y = 25 \quad \text{fraction} = \frac{12}{25}$$

- 10 (a) Let the digits in unit's place and ten's place be x & y resp

A TS

$$x + y = 3 \quad (i)$$

$$\text{No} = 10y + x$$

$$\text{No formed by reversing the digits} = 10x + y$$

$$7(10y + x) - 4(10x + y) \quad (ii)$$

$$\text{Solving (i) \& (ii) we get } x = 2, y = 1 \quad \text{No} = 12$$

- 11 (b) 1st part - 4 - 2nd part + 5 = $\frac{3\text{rd part}}{2}$

$$= 4\text{th part} \times 3 = x \text{ (say)}$$

$$\text{1st part} = x + 4$$

$$\text{2nd part} = x - 5$$

$$\text{3rd part} = 2x$$

$$\text{4th part} = \frac{x}{3}$$

$$x + 4 + x - 5 + 2x + \frac{x}{3} = 155 \quad x = 36$$

$$\text{1st part} = x + 4 = 36 + 4 = 40$$

- 12 (a) Let the rate at which the river flows be x km/hr

$$\text{Speed down stream} = (x + 15) \text{ km/hr}$$

$$\text{Speed upstream} = (x - 5) \text{ km/hr}$$

A TS

$$\frac{40}{x-5} - 3\left(\frac{40}{x+5}\right) = x = 10 \text{ km/hr}$$

- 13 (b) Let the cost of cow be Rs x and that of calf be Rs y

A TS

$$\frac{110}{100}x + \frac{125}{100}y = 760 \quad (i)$$

$$\frac{125}{100}x + \frac{110}{100}y = 767.50 \quad (ii)$$

$$\text{Solving (i) \& (ii) we get } x = 350$$

- 14 (c) Let the no. of males at present be x and that of females be y

$$x + y = 50000 \quad (i)$$

$$\frac{105}{100}x + \frac{103}{100}y = 52020 \quad (ii)$$

$$\text{Solving (i) \& (ii), } x = 26000$$

- 15 (a) Let $x = 100$ $y = 120$

If y is 120 then x is 20 less

$$\text{Reqd \%age} = \frac{20}{120} \times 100 = 16\frac{2}{3}\%$$

- 16 (d) Diff of percentage in income tax = $3\frac{1}{2} - 3\frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{6}$

Total difference due to reduction

$$= \frac{1}{6}\% \text{ of Rs } 8400 = \text{Rs } 14$$

- 17 (a) Work done by A in 3 days = $3 \times \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$

As the wages are distributed in proportional to work done

$$\text{A will get } \frac{1}{2} \times 200 = \text{Rs } 100$$

$$\text{Work done by B in 3 days} = \frac{1}{8} \times 3 = \frac{3}{8}$$

$$\text{B gets} = 200 \times \frac{3}{8} = \text{Rs } 75$$

$$\text{C gets} = \text{Rs } 200 - \text{Rs } 100 - \text{Rs } 75 = \text{Rs } 25$$

- 18 (a) The part of cistern filled by pipe B in 18 minutes

$$18 \times \frac{1}{36} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Rest $\frac{1}{2}$ of the cistern will be filled by A in 15 minutes

So A must be turned off after 15 minutes

- 19 (a) Let the reqd no be x

$$\frac{x \times 8250}{715} \text{ must be an integer}$$

$$\frac{x \times 5^2 \times 2 \times 11 \times 15}{5 \times 11 \times 13}$$

$$= \frac{x \times 5 \times 2 \times 15}{13} \text{ must be an integer}$$

So it must be multiplied by 13

- 20 (a) Daily wages of a man and a boy = $400 - 5 = \text{Rs } 80$

Wage ratio of a man and a boy = $3 : 1$

$$\text{Daily wages of a boy} = \frac{1}{1+3} \times 80 = \text{Rs } 20$$

- 21 (b) Sum of digits in odd places = $3 + k + 1 = 4 + k$

$$\text{Sum of digits in even places} = 7 + 4 + 4 = 15$$

$$\text{Diff} = 15 - 4 - k = 11 - k \text{ which is divisible by 11 if } k = 0$$

Reqd value is 0

- 22 (c) Use BODMAS

$$\frac{3}{4} \text{ of } \left(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{2}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{7} \times \frac{14}{15}\right) \text{ of } \left(\frac{16}{5} \times \frac{5}{8}\right)$$

$$= \frac{3}{4} \text{ of } \frac{5}{6} + \frac{2}{15} \text{ of } \frac{2}{1} = \frac{5}{8} + \frac{4}{15} = \frac{5}{8} \times \frac{15}{4} = \frac{75}{32} = 2\frac{11}{32}$$

23. (d) Let the fraction be $x \therefore x \times \left(\frac{7}{6} - \frac{6}{7}\right) = \frac{39}{210}$

$$\therefore x = \frac{3}{5}$$

24. (c) $(a+b)^2 - (a-b)^2 = 4ab$

$$\therefore \text{Given exp} = 4 \times \frac{71}{15} \times \frac{15}{71} = 4$$

25. (c) Let C.P. be Rs x

A.T.S.

$$\frac{109}{100}x - \frac{93}{100}x = 64 \therefore x = 400$$

26. (c) By selling 7 articles, 3 articles is gain

$$\text{gain \%} = \frac{3}{7} \times 100 = \frac{300}{7} = 42\frac{6}{7}$$

27. (a) $10 \text{ m/sec} = 10 \times \frac{18}{5} = 36 \text{ km/hr.}$

$$\text{Reqd. ratio} = 45 : 36 = 5 : 4$$

28. (a) Total age of 5 members 3 years ago

$$= 17 \times 5 = 85 \text{ yrs}$$

$$\text{Total age of 5 members now} = 85 + 3 \times 5 = 100 \text{ yrs}$$

$$\text{Total age of 6 members now} = 17 \times 6 = 102 \text{ yrs}$$

$$\text{Age of the baby} = 102 - 100 = 2 \text{ yrs.}$$

29. (a) Age decreased $= 5 \times 3 = 15 \text{ yrs}$

$$\therefore \text{The reqd. diff.} = 15 \text{ yrs.}$$

30. (b) Suppose B joined after x years

$$\text{Ratio of profits} = \text{Ratio of investments}$$

$$\text{As profits are equal}$$

$$\therefore 21000 \times 12 = 36000 (12 - x) \therefore x = 5 \text{ yrs}$$

31. (c) Let 1 gm of gold be mixed with x gm of copper to give $(1+x)$ gm of an alloy $1 \text{ G} = 19 \text{ W}$, $1 \text{ C} = 9 \text{ W}$

$$\therefore \text{alloy} = 16 \text{ W}$$

$$1 \text{ gm gold} + x \text{ gm copper} = (1+x) \text{ gm of alloy}$$

$$19 \text{ W} + 9 \text{ W}x = (1+x) 16 \text{ W}$$

$$\therefore x = 3/7$$

$$\text{Gold : Copper}$$

$$= 1 : \frac{3}{7} = 7 : 3$$

32. (d) $\text{Reqd. ratio} = \frac{3}{4} \times \frac{6}{7} = \frac{9}{14}$

33. (c) $n(A) = \frac{75}{100} \times 600 = 450$, $n(B)$

$$= \frac{45}{100} \times 600 = 270,$$

$$n(A \cup B) = 600$$

$$n(A \cap B) = n(A) + n(B) - n(A \cup B)$$

$$= 450 + 270 - 600 = 120$$

34. (a) $P = \frac{A \times 100}{100 + R \times T} = \frac{784 \times 100}{100 + 15 \times \frac{3}{2}} = \text{Rs } 640$

35. (b) $\text{S.I.} = \frac{2600}{100} \times \frac{20}{3} \times T = \frac{520}{3} \times T$ which is an exact no. of Rs when $T = 3 \therefore T = 3 \text{ yrs}$

36. (b) $2P = P(1 + \frac{R}{100})^5 \therefore (1 + \frac{R}{100})^5 = 2,$

$$\text{Let } 8P = P(1 + \frac{R}{100})^n$$

$$\text{or } (1 + \frac{R}{100})^n = 8 = 2^3 = [(1 + \frac{R}{100})^5]^3$$

$$= (1 + \frac{R}{100})^{15} \therefore n = 15$$

37. (a) $\log 5^{20} = 20 \log 5 = 20 \log (\frac{10}{2})$

$$= 20 [\log 10 - \log 2]$$

$$= 20 [1 - 0.30103]$$

$$= 13.9800 \text{ characteristic} = 13$$

$$\therefore \text{Reqd. no. of digits} = 13 + 1 = 14$$

38. (b) $\text{Area} = \frac{2}{3} \times 10000 \text{ sq. m.}$

$$\text{Let } B = \lambda \text{ m} \therefore \text{length } \frac{3}{2}x$$

$$\frac{3}{2}x \times x = \frac{2}{3} \times 10000 \therefore x = \frac{200}{3}$$

$$\therefore \text{Length} = \frac{3}{2} \times \frac{200}{3} = 100 \text{ m}$$

39. (a) $2\pi r - r = 37$ or $r(2 \times \frac{22}{7} - 1) = 37 \therefore r = 7$

$$\text{Area} = \pi r^2 = \frac{22}{7} \times 7^2 = 154 \text{ cm}^2$$

40. (a) Altitude of an equilateral $\Delta \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \times 3\sqrt{3} = 4.5$

41. (a) $\% \text{age decrease} = \frac{1927 - 1924}{1927} \times 100$
 $= 0.16\% \text{ (approx.)}$

42. (b) 43. (a)

44. (c) $5756 : 1924 = 3 : 1 \text{ (approx.)}$

45. (d) $\% \text{age increase} = \frac{1933 - 605}{605} \times 100 = 219.5$

46. (d) Ratio of bonus to total income

$$A = \frac{80}{900} = 0.08, B = \frac{40}{500} = 0.08, C = \frac{150}{1500} = 0.1,$$

$$D = \frac{80}{700} = 0.11, E = \frac{100}{1000} = 0.1$$

47. (a) $\frac{180}{200} \times 100 = 90\%$

48. (e)

49. (c)

50. (d)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Combined Defence Services Exam, 29th October, 1995

USAGE

Spotting Errors (Items 1 to 15)

Directions

(i) In this Section a number of sentences are given. The sentences are in three separate parts and each one is labelled (a) (b) (c). Read each sentence to find out whether there is an error in any part. No sentence has more than one error. When you find an error in any one of the parts (a) (b) or (c) indicate your response on the separate Answer Sheet at the appropriate space. You may feel that there is no error in a sentence. In that case letter (d) will signify a 'No error' response.

(ii) You are to indicate only one response for each item on your Answer Sheet. (If you indicate more than one response your answer will be considered wrong). Errors may be in grammar, word usage or idioms. There may be a word missing or there may be a word which should be removed.

(iii) You are **not** required to correct the error. You are required *only* to indicate your response on the Answer Sheet. Examples P and Q have been solved for you.

P The young child(a) singed(b) a very sweet song (c) No error (d)

Q We worked(a) very hard(b) throughout the season (c) No error (d)

Explanation

In item P the word singed is wrong. The letter under this part is 'b', so 'b' is the correct answer. Similarly, for item Q, 'd' is the correct answer, as the sentence does not contain any error.

Now attempt items 1 to 15

1 It is an established fact that the transcendental American poets and philosophers(a) who lived in the latter half of the nineteenth century,(b) were more influenced by Indian philosophy, in particular by Upanishadic Philosophy (c) No error (d)

2 No sooner did I open the door(a) when the rain, heavy and stor-

my, rushed in(b) making us shiver from head to foot (c) No error (d)

3 After opening the door(a) we entered into the room(b) next to the kitchen(c) No error (d)

4 When the dentist came in(a) my tooth was stopped aching(b) out of fear that I might lose my tooth (c) No error (d)

5 Emphasis on equality of life ensures(a) for the health and happiness(b) of every individual(c) No error (d)

6 The students were(a) awaiting for(b) the arrival of the chief guest (c) No error (d)

7 You will come(a) to my party tomorrow (b) isn't it? (c) No error (d)

8 Having read a number of stories(a) about space travel (b) his dream now is about to visit the moon (c) No error (d)

9 The meeting adjourned abruptly(a) by the Chairman after(b) about three hours of deliberation (c) No error (d)

10 Not one of the hundreds(a) of striking workers(b) were allowed to go near the factory (c) No error (d)

11 If I had known(a) this yesterday(b) I will have helped him (c) No error (d)

12 Mr Smith was accused for murder(a) but the court found him not guilty(b) and acquitted him (c) No error (d)

13 Unless you stop to make noise at once(a) I will have no option but to(b) bring the matter to the attention of the police (c) No error (d)

14 He couldn't but help(a) shedding tears at the plight of the villagers(b) rendered homeless by a devastating cyclone (c) No error (d)

15 Since it was his first election campaign the candidate was confused(a) none could clearly understand(b) either the principles he stood for or the benefits he promised (c) No error (d)

Sentence Improvement

(Items 16 to 30)

Directions:

Look at the underlined part of each sentence. Below each sentence are given three possible substitutions for the underlined part. If one of them (a), (b) or (c) is better than the underlined part indicate your response on the Answer Sheet against the corresponding letter (a) (b) or (c). If none of the substitutions improve the sentence indicate (d) as your response on the Answer Sheet. Thus a 'No improvement' response will be signified by the letter (d). Examples R and S have been solved for you.

R The young child sung a very sweet song.

- (a) singed the
- (b) singed
- (c) sang a
- (d) No improvement

S I have already read this book twice.

- (a) I already twice have read this book.
- (b) I twice have already read this book.
- (c) I have twice already read this book.
- (d) No improvement

Explanation

R For item R the correct sentence should read 'The young child sang a very sweet song.' (c) is therefore the correct answer.

S Item S is a correct sentence. None of the changes suggested will improve it. 'd' is therefore, the correct answer.

Errors may be in grammar, appropriate word usage or idioms. There may be a necessary word missing or there may be a word which should be removed.

Now attempt items 16 to 30

16 The old man telled some trees in the garden with hardly no effort at all.

- (a) hard effort
- (b) hardly any effort

(c) a hardly any effort

(d) No improvement

17 She says she's already paid me back but I can't remember, so I'll have to take her word

(a) to take her word true

(b) to take her at her word

(c) to take her word for it

(d) No improvement

18 The workers are hell bent at getting what is due to them

(a) hell bent on getting

(b) hell bent for getting

(c) hell bent upon getting

(d) No improvement

19 You are warned against committing the same mistake again

(a) to commit

(b) for committing

(c) against to commit

(d) No improvement

20 While we would like that all Indian children to go to school, we need to ponder why they do not

(a) that all the Indian children

(b) if all the children of India

(c) all Indian children

(d) No improvement

21 Due to these reasons we are all in favour of universal compulsory education

(a) Out of these reasons

(b) For these reasons

(c) By these reasons

(d) No improvement

22 When it was feared that the serfs might go too far and gain their freedom from serfdom, the Protestant leaders joined the princes at crushing them

(a) into crushing

(b) in crushing

(c) without crushing

(d) No improvement

23 In India today many of our intellectuals still talk in terms of the French revolution and the Rights of Man, not appreciating that much has happened since then

(a) much has been happening

(b) much had happened

(c) much might happen

(d) No improvement

24 Taxpayers are to be conscious of their privileges

(a) have to

(b) need

(c) ought to

(d) No improvement

25 I would have waited for you at the station if I knew that you would

come

(a) had known

(b) was knowing

(c) have known

(d) No improvement

26 No one could explain how a calm and balanced person like him could penetrate such a mindless act on his friends

(a) perpetuate

(b) perpetrate

(c) precipitate

(d) No improvement

27 Although India is still by far a poor country, it can become rich if its natural and human resources are fully utilised

(a) few and far between

(b) by and large

(c) by and by

(d) No improvement

28 The more they earn, more they spend

(a) More they earn, more they spend

(b) More they earn, the more they spend

(c) The more they earn, the more they spend

(d) No improvement

29 But in all these cases conversion from one scale to another is easy because scales have well-formulated

(a) can be well-formulated

(b) are well-formulated

(c) well formulated

(d) No improvement

30 Five years ago today, I am sitting in a small Japanese car, driving across Poland towards Berlin

(a) was sitting

(b) sat

(c) have been sitting

(d) No improvement

VOCABULARY

Synonyms (Items 31 to 40)

Directions:

In this Section you find a number of sentences, parts of which are underlined. You may also find only a group of words which is underlined. For each underlined part, four words/phrases are listed below. Choose the word nearest in meaning to the underlined part

Example 'E' is solved for you

E His style is quite transparent

(a) verbose

(b) involved

(c) lucid

(a) witty

Explanation In item 'E' the word 'lucid' is nearest in meaning to the word 'transparent'. So 'c' is the correct answer

Now attempt items 31 to 40.

31 True religion does not require one to proselytise through guile or force

(a) translate

(b) hypnotise

(c) attack

(d) convert

32 That the plan is both inhuman and preposterous needs no further proof

(a) heartless

(b) impractical

(c) absurd

(d) abnormal

33 The attitude of the Western countries towards the third-world countries is rather callous to say the least

(a) passive

(b) unkind

(c) cursed

(d) unfeeling

34 Whatever the verdict of history may be, Chaplin will occupy a unique place in its pages

(a) judgement

(b) voice

(c) outcome

(d) prediction

35 He corroborated the statement of his brother

(a) confirmed

(b) disproved

(c) condemned

(d) seconded

36 Whatever opinion he gives is sane

(a) rational

(b) obscure

(c) wild

(d) arrogant

37 The story is too fantastic to be credible

(a) believable

(b) false

(c) readable

(d) praiseworthy

38 Catching snakes can be hazardous for people untrained in the art

(a) tricky

(b) harmful

(c) difficult

(d) dangerous

39 We should always try to maintain and promote communal amity.

- (a) bondage
- (b) contention
- (c) friendship
- (d) understanding

40. Many species of animals have become extinct during the last hundred years.

- (a) aggressive
- (b) non-existent
- (c) scattered
- (d) feeble

Antonyms (Items 41 to 50)

Directions:

In this Section each item consists of a word or a phrase which is underlined in the sentence given. It is followed by four words or phrases. Select the word or phrase which is closest to the opposite in meaning of the underlined word or phrase.

Example "F" has been solved for you.

F. Lucy is a smart girl.

- (a) lazy
- (b) active
- (c) indecent
- (d) cladial

Explanation: The word which is nearest opposite in meaning to the underlined word "smart" is "lazy". So (a) is the correct answer.

Now attempt items 41 to 50.

41. A friendly dog met us at the farmgate.

- (a) helpful
- (b) understanding
- (c) quiet
- (d) hostile

42. He is extremely intelligent but proud.

- (a) dull
- (b) weak
- (d) ignorant
- (d) simple

43. The young leader was reluctant to shoulder the responsibilities of the ministerial office.

- (a) wanting
- (b) willing
- (c) anxious
- (d) eager

44. He abandoned his family.

- (a) supported
- (b) encouraged
- (c) pleased
- (d) saved

45. History abounds in instances of courage.

- (a) shines
- (b) lacks

- (c) suffices
- (d) fails

46. Adversity teaches man to be humble and self-reliant.

- (a) Sincerity
- (b) Animosity
- (c) Curiosity
- (d) Prosperity

47. Like poverty, affluence can sometimes create its own problems.

- (a) indigence
- (b) opulence
- (c) sorrow
- (d) exuberance

48. The habit of squandering money should not be encouraged.

- (a) discarding
- (b) hoarding
- (c) collecting
- (d) saving

49. His short but pointed speech was applauded by all sections of the audience.

- (a) disapproved
- (b) misunderstood
- (c) praised
- (d) welcomed

50. In ancient India, scholars had no interest in political power or material growth.

- (a) internal
- (b) spiritual
- (c) psychic
- (d) celestial

SELECTING WORDS

Simple Sentences (Items 51 to 60)

Directions:

Each of the following sentences (Items 51 to 60) has a blank space and four words given after the sentence. Select whichever word you consider most appropriate for the blank space and indicate your choice on the Answer Sheet.

Now attempt item numbers 51 to 60.

51. 'Please' and 'Thank you' are the little courtesies by which we keep the _____ of life oiled and running smoothly.

- (a) path
- (b) machine
- (c) garden
- (d) river

52. Many of the advances of civilization have been conceived by young people just on the _____ of adulthood.

- (a) boundary
- (b) threshold

- (c) peak
- (d) horizon

53. The more your action and thought are allied and _____, the happier you grow.

- (a) divergent
- (b) unravelled
- (c) integrated
- (d) invincible

54. He _____ in wearing the old-fashioned coat in spite of his wife's disapproval.

- (a) insists
- (b) persists
- (c) desists
- (d) resists

55. It is not what you say that _____, but what you do.

- (a) matches
- (b) implies
- (c) matters
- (d) moves

56. Physically we are now all neighbours, but psychologically we are _____ to each other.

- (a) primitives
- (b) complimentary
- (c) strangers
- (d) cowards

57. The old 'Nature Versus _____' debate regarding crime continues even today.

- (a) Man
- (b) Universe
- (c) Culture
- (d) Nurture

58. You haven't had your lunch yet,—you?

- (a) are
- (b) aren't
- (c) have
- (d) haven't

59. Life is to death as pleasure is to _____.

- (a) poverty
- (b) suffering
- (c) anguish
- (d) pain

60. The French _____ reputed to have a very good sense of humour.

- (a) is
- (b) was
- (c) are
- (d) will be

Balance Questions and complete answers will appear in July '96 issue.

GENERAL AWARENESS

The questions given below were set by the Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board examination for the posts of Section Officers and Assistants on the 29th December, 1995.

We are grateful to Swapna Upadhyay for sending these questions to us.

1. According to 1991 Census report, India's population is:

- (a) 868 million (b) 846 million
(c) 832 million (d) 884 million

2. The largest number of villages are in the State of:

- (a) Bihar (b) Uttar Pradesh
(c) Madhya Pradesh (d) West Bengal

3. Khasi tribe lives in which State of India?

- (a) Meghalaya (b) Nagaland
(c) Assam (d) Tripura

4. Sambar lake is in the State of:

- (a) Rajasthan (b) Bihar
(c) Maharashtra (d) Haryana

5. The number of States in India is:

- (a) 1 (b) 21 (c) 25 (d) 23

6. Longest sea-beach in India is:

- (a) Mangalore (b) Bombay
(c) Cochin (d) Madras

7. Which Indian State leads in the production of tobacco?

- (a) Gujarat (b) Maharashtra
(c) Andhra Pradesh (d) Bihar

8. Indian National Congress was founded in:

- (a) 1885 (b) 1887
(c) 1911 (d) 1919

9. Indian State with largest irrigated area is:

- (a) Punjab (b) Uttar Pradesh
(c) Haryana (d) Tamil Nadu

10. The biggest Multi-purpose project of India is:

- (a) Damodar (b) Krishnaraja Sagar
(c) Bhakra-Nangal (d) Nagarjuna Sagar

11. Ankleswar Oil-field is situated near:

- (a) Digboi (b) Bombay
(c) Surat (d) Tarapur

12. State with highest density of population is:

- (a) Bihar (b) Uttar Pradesh
(c) West Bengal (d) Orissa

13. Diesel locomotives are manufactured in:

- (a) Cochin (b) Chittaranjan
(c) Jamshedpur (d) Jamnagar

14. Ghana Bird Sanctuary is located in:

- (a) Assam (b) Uttar Pradesh
(c) Kerala (d) Rajasthan

15. Tehri Dam is located in:

- (a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Madhya Pradesh
(c) Maharashtra (d) Punjab

16. The State with maximum agro-based industries is:

- (a) Punjab (b) Haryana
(c) Uttar Pradesh (d) Rajasthan

17. The river which flows through Maharashtra and Gujarat is:

- (a) Godavari (b) Sabarmati
(c) Mahi (d) Tapi

18. Mica is abundantly found in the State of:

- (a) Kerala (b) Bihar
(c) Madhya Pradesh (d) West Bengal

19. The Vice-President of India is elected by:

- (a) Rajya Sabha only (b) Lok Sabha only
(c) State Legislative Assembly
(d) Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha

20. Kusinagar is associated with the name of:

- (a) Mahavir (b) Rama
(c) Buddha (d) Vivekananda

21. Akbar built Pancha Mahal at:

- (a) Fatehpur Sikri (b) Agra
(c) Delhi (d) Aurangabad

22. The organisation which looks after the credit need of agriculture and rural development is:

- (a) IDBI (b) FCI
(c) ICAR (d) NABARD

23. In Indian Economy principal means of transportation is:

- (a) Airways (b) Railways
(c) Waterways (d) Roadways

24. Jaydeva was the author of:

- (a) Gitagovind (b) Nitishataka
(c) Lilavati (d) Padmavat

25. India's first Five-year Plan was started in:

- (a) 1947 (b) 1955 (c) 1951 (d) 1961

26. Which one of the following is used for bleaching?

- (a) Bromine (b) Iodine

- (c) Fluorine (d) Chlorine
27. Black soil is suitable for the cultivation of:
 (a) Jute (b) Cotton
 (c) Maize (d) Sugarcane
28. Indian city which is the largest producer of sports goods is:
 (a) Hyderabad (b) Bangalore
 (c) Jalandhar (d) Kanpur
29. The subject matter of Upanishad is:
 (a) Philosophy (b) Religion
 (c) Law (d) Tantra
30. The name of the famous Sunga Ruler is:
 (a) Ajatashatru (b) Rudradaman
 (c) Kharavela (d) Pushyamitra
31. The famous god of Indus Valley Civilization was:
 (a) Agni (b) Pashupati
 (c) Indra (d) Vishnu
32. Fa-hien visited India during the reign of:
 (a) Ashoka (b) Chandragupta II
 (c) Harsha (d) Yashovardana
33. The Veda associated with music is:
 (a) Samaveda (b) Yajurveda
 (c) Rigveda (d) Atharvaveda
34. Urine sample of diabetic patients contain:
 (a) Glucose (b) Sucrose
 (c) Lactose (d) Maltose
35. Telegu is the language of:
 (a) Karnataka (b) Kerala
 (c) Tripura (d) Andhra Pradesh
36. Hirakud is associated with:
 (a) Bihar (b) Orissa
 (c) West Bengal (d) Punjab
37. Cotton is obtained from which part of the plant?
 (a) Fruit (b) Flower
 (c) Stem (d) Root
38. Propounder of Advaitavada was:
 (a) Madhava
 (b) Ramanuja
 (c) Mandeva Mishra
 (d) Shankara
39. Muslim writer who was a scholar of Sanskrit was:
 (a) Alberuni
 (b) Badruddin
 (c) Amir Khuro
 (d) Amir Hasan
40. Largest amount of Saffron comes from:
 (a) Kerala
 (b) Karnataka
 (c) Jammu & Kashmir

- (d) Himachal Pradesh
41. The Union Territory which has a legislature is:
 (a) Andaman and Nicobar
 (b) Pondicherry
 (c) Chandigarh
 (d) Dadra and Nagar Haveli
42. Who started Home Rule League in India?
 (a) Lokmanya Tilak
 (b) G.K. Gokhale
 (c) Lala Lajpat Rai
 (d) Moti Lal Nehru
43. The author of the Hindi work 'Kamayani' is:
 (a) Premchand (b) Kabir
 (c) Dinkar (d) Jaishankar Prasad
44. Who is the first Indian to reach Mount Everest?
 (a) M.S. Kohli (b) Sonam Gyatso
 (c) Tenzing Norgay (d) H.V. Bahuguna
45. 'Durand Cup' is associated with:
 (a) Cricket (b) Football
 (c) Hockey (d) Volleyball
46. The last of Jain Tirthankaras was:
 (a) Mahavir (b) Rishabha Dev
 (c) Bhadrabahu (d) Parsvanath
47. The main source of Indian National Income is:
 (a) Industry (b) Tourism
 (c) Agriculture (d) None of the above
48. Kuchipudi dance style originated from:
 (a) Tamil Nadu (b) Kerala
 (c) Andhra Pradesh (d) Manipur
49. The great Indian law-giver was:
 (a) Kautilya
 (b) Manu
 (c) Vatsayana (d) Kapil
50. Meenakshi temple is in:
 (a) Madurai (b) Puri
 (c) Madras (d) Kumbakonam

ANSWERS

- | | | | | |
|---------|------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (b) | 3. (a) | 4. (a) | 5. (c) |
| 6. (c) | 7. (c) | 8. (a) | 9. (b) | 10. (c) |
| 11. (c) | 12. (c) | 13. (b) | 14. (d) | 15. (a) |
| 16. (c) | 17. (d) | 18. (b) | 19. (d) | 20. (c) |
| 21. (a) | 22. (d) | 23. (d) | 24. (a) | 25. (c) |
| 26. (d) | 27. (b) | 28. (c) | 29. (a) | 30. (d) |
| 31. (b) | 32. (b) | 33. (a) | 34. (a) | 35. (d) |
| 36. (b) | 37. (a) | 38. (d) | 39. (a) | 40. (c) |
| 41. (b) | 42. (a) | 43. (d) | 44. (c) | 45. (b) |
| 46. (a) | 47. (d) (Ans. Revenue) | | | 48. (c) |
| 49. (b) | 50. (a) | | | |

TEST OF REASONING—1

BSRB (Patna) Exam held on the 24th March, 1996

1-3. Answer the following questions based on the following alphabets:

ABCDEF GHIJ KLMNOP Q RSTUVWXYZ

1. Which letter will come exactly midway between the 9th letter from your left and the 10th letter from your right, without changing any order in the original form of alphabet?

- (a) L (b) N (c) O
(d) M (e) None of these

2. What will come in the place of the question mark (?) in the following letter sequence?

BYW DUS FQO ?

- (a) HMK (b) HNK (c) GMK
(d) HMJ (e) None of these

3. If the first half of the above alphabet is written in reverse order, which letter will be the 7th to the left of the 10th letter counting from your right end?

- (a) E (b) D (c) C
(d) J (e) None of these

4. How many 8's are there in the following sequence which are immediately preceded by an even number and followed by an odd number?

5 8 2 5 4 3 7 8 7 8 7 8 4 8 2 3 8 2 5 8 4 3

- (a) 2 (b) 3 (c) 4
(d) 5 (e) None of these

5-7. Read the following information and answer the following questions:

- (a) Eight friends, A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H are sitting in a circle facing the centre.
(b) A, who is sitting immediately between G and C, is just to the opposite of F.
(c) E, who is sitting immediately between H and C, is second to the right of A and second to the left of F.
(d) D, is sitting second to the left of G.

5. Who are the three friends sitting immediately to the right of B?

- (a) DFH (b) GAC (c) ACE
(d) Can't be determined
(e) None of these

6. Who is sitting between D and G?

- (a) A (b) F (c) B
(d) Can't be determined
(e) None of these

7. Who are the immediate neighbours of D?

- (a) B and F (b) F and H (c) B and G

- (d) B and H (e) None of these

8. If '+' means '-', '-' means 'x', 'x' means '+' and '+' means '+', then $30 \times 5 + 5 - 5 + 5 = ?$

- (a) 26 (b) 45 (c) 3
(d) 50 (e) None of these

9. In a code language, STRONGER is written as TSSNOFFQ. How is FREEDOM written in that code?

- (a) GREDENM (b) GREDENN (c) GRFDFNN
(d) ERFDENN (e) None of these

10. Facing towards North, Subhash walked 20 metres. He then turned to his right and walked 15 metres. He again turned to his right and walked 20 metres. Finally, he turned to his left and walked 35 metres. How far is Subhash from his starting point?

- (a) 40 metres (b) 35 metres (c) 75 metres
(d) 55 metres (e) None of these

*11. How many pairs of letters are there in the word 'MISFORTUNE' which have as many letters between them as in the alphabet?

- (a) More than 4 (b) No such pair (c) Three
(d) Two (e) One

12. If all the numbers from 4 to 64 which are exactly divisible by 4 are arranged in the descending order, which should come at the 9th place from the top?

- (a) 36 (b) 28 (c) 32
(d) 40 (e) None of these

13. In a row of boys, Ram is 7th from the right and Umesh is also 7th from the left. When Ram and Umesh interchange their positions, Umesh becomes 15th from the left. Which of the following will be Ram's new position from the right?

- (a) 20th (b) 17th (c) 16th
(d) 15th (e) None of these

14. Pointing to a lady in the photograph, Praveen said "She is the only daughter of my mother". How is Praveen related to the lady in the photograph?

- (a) Brother (b) Mother (c) Nephew
(d) Niece (e) None of these

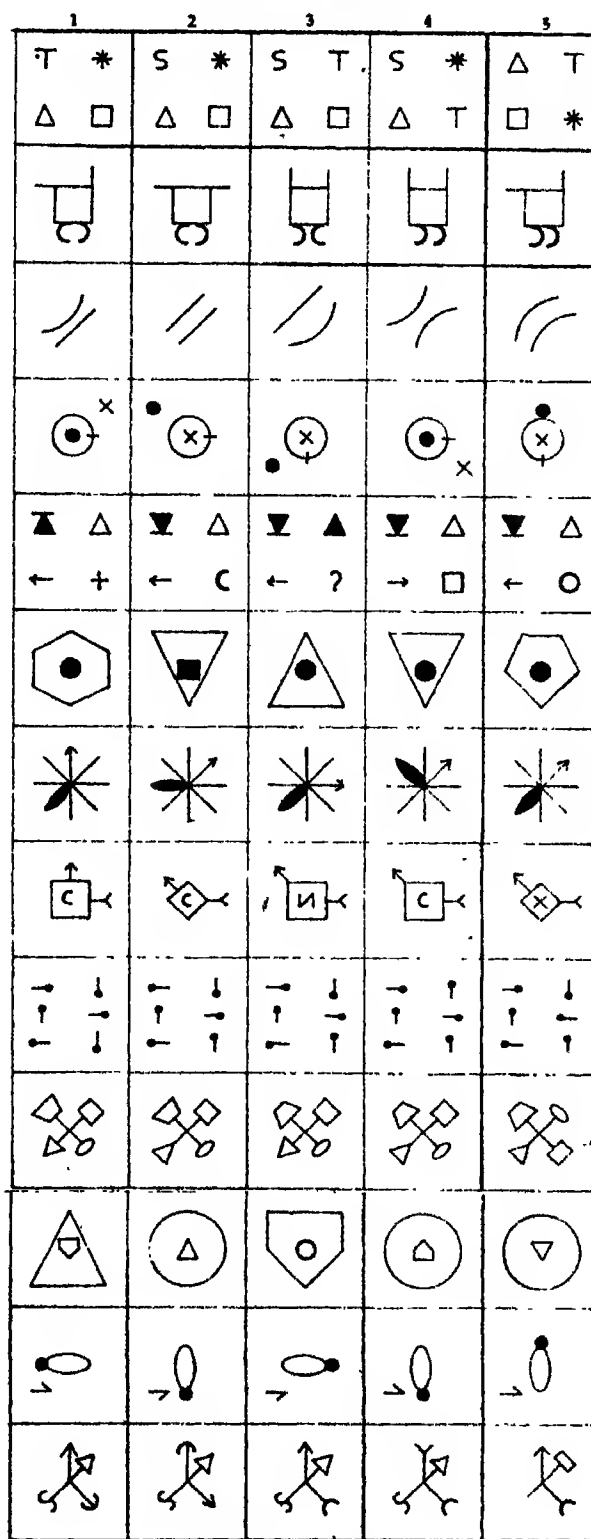
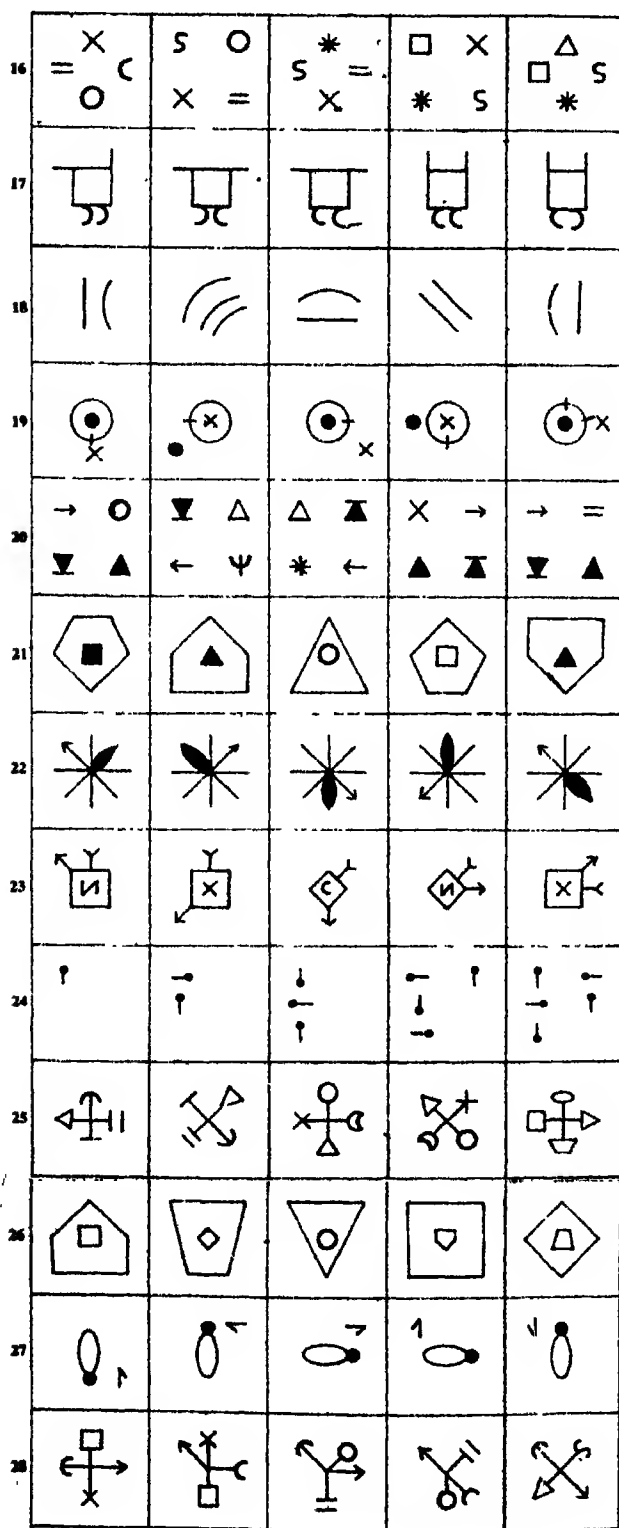
15. Sudhir recollects that he met his mother on a Saturday after the 13th of a particular month. If the first day of that month falls on Friday, on which date did Sudhir meet his mother?

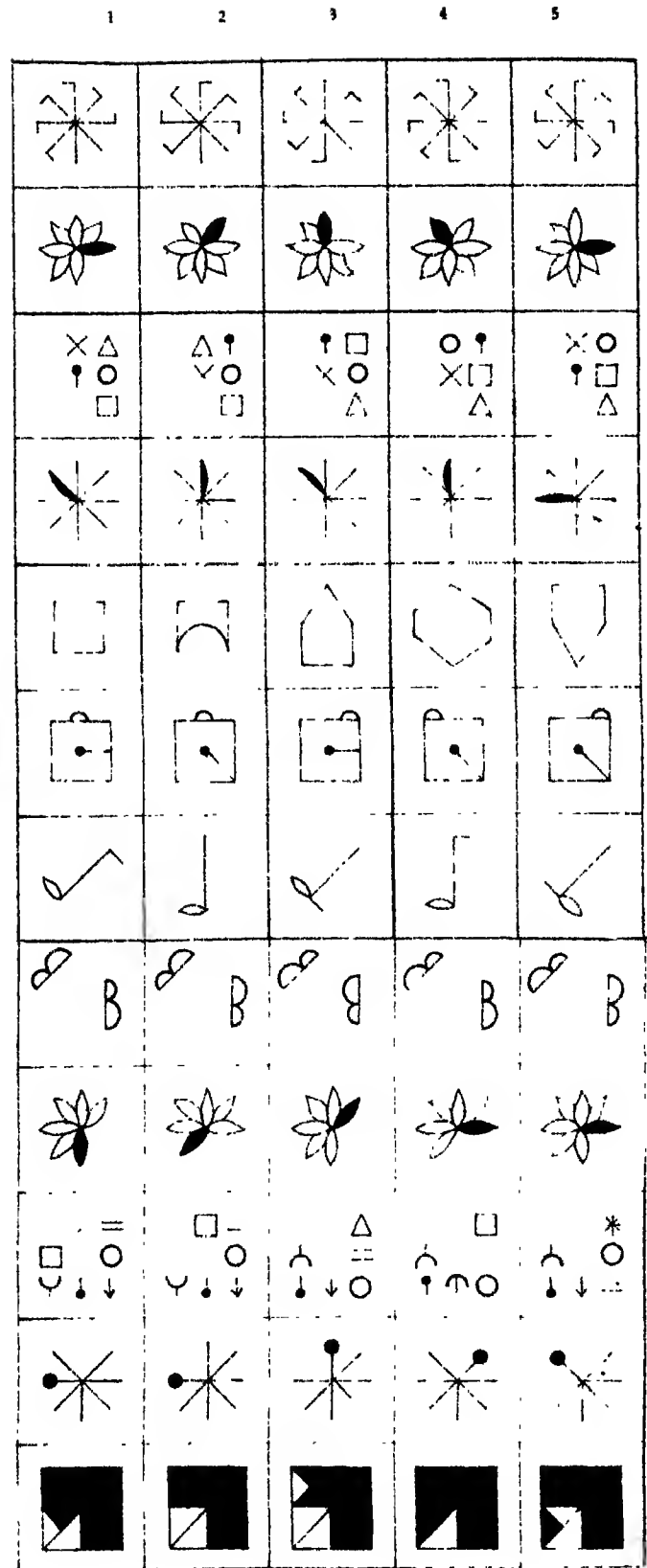
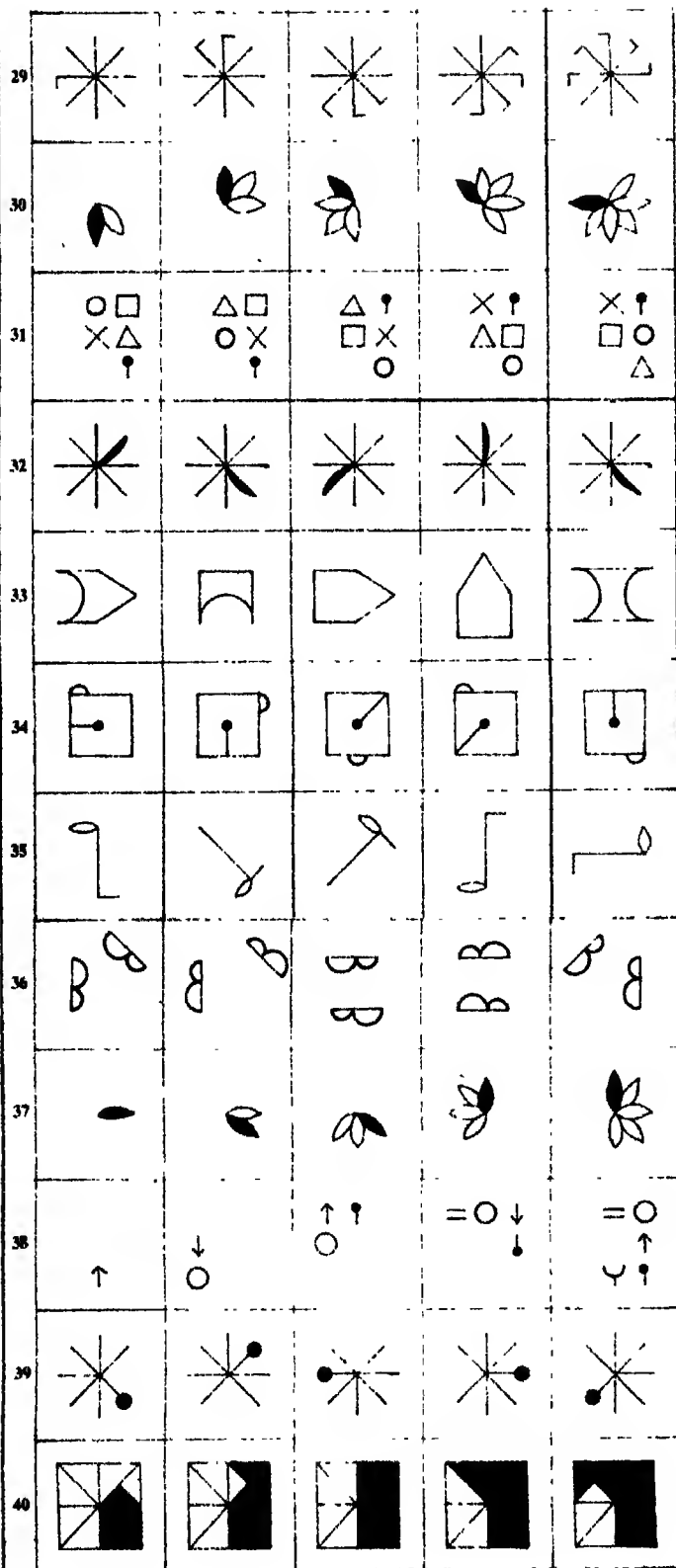
- (a) 22nd (b) 19th (c) 16th
(d) 15th (e) None of these

16-40. In each of the questions given below which one of the five answer figures on the right should come after the problem figures on the left, if the sequence were continued?

PROBLEM FIGURES

ANSWER FIGURES

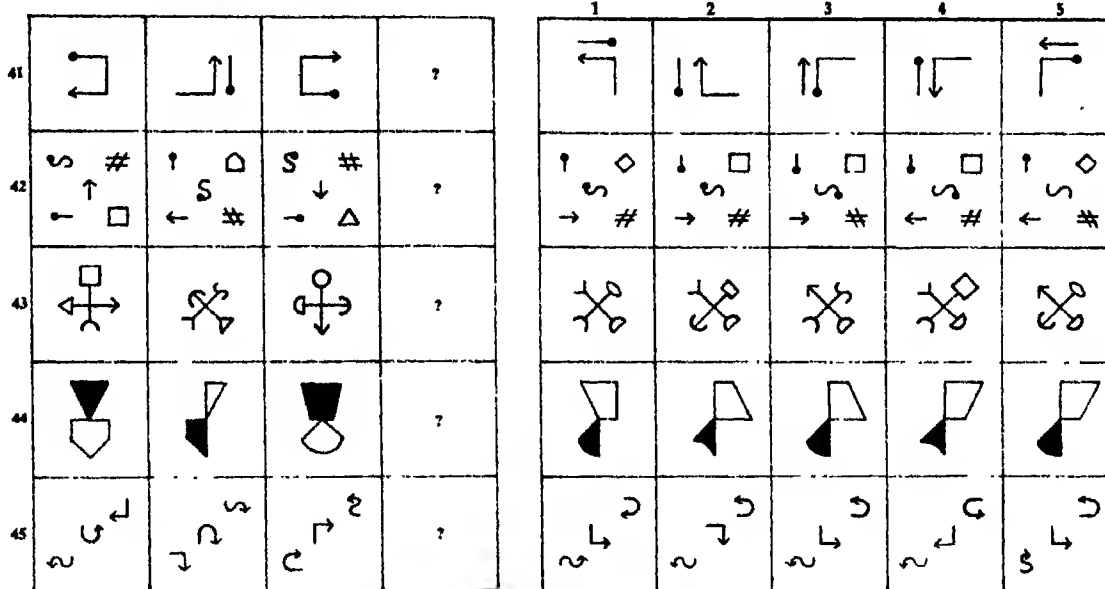




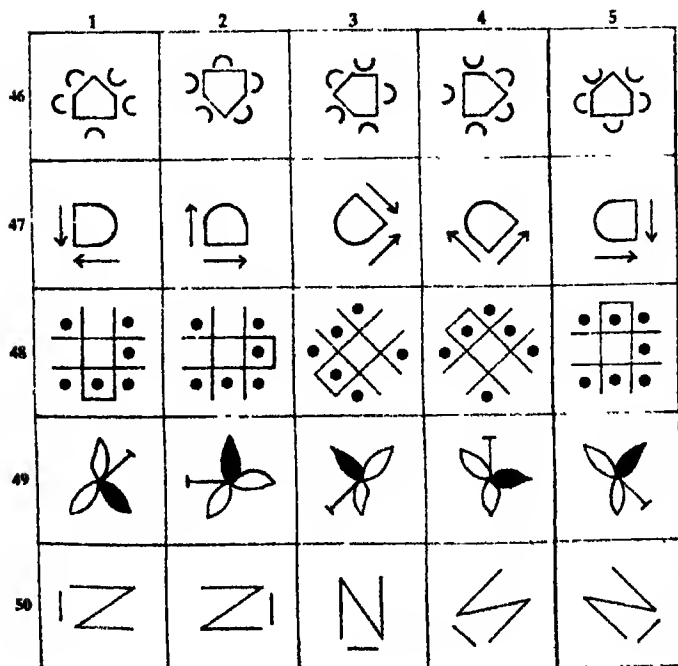
41-45. The second figure in the first unit of the problem figures bears a certain relationship to the first figure. Similarly one of the figures in the answer figures bears the same relationship to the first figure in the second unit. You are therefore to locate the figure which would fit the question mark.

PROBLEM FIGURES

ANSWER FIGURES



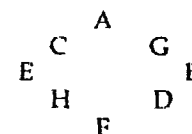
46-50. Out of the given five figures, four are similar in a certain way. One figure is not like the other four. That means four figures form a group. The question is which one of the figures does not belong to this group?



ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

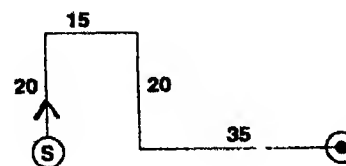
- (d) I J K L [M] N O P Q
- (a) Observe the gaps in individual letters B; D; F ... Y; U; Q and W; S, O.
- (b) 4. (c)

5-7. The arrangement would be



- (b)
- (a)
- (c) The answer ought to be GQFDENN. For the code, the first, third, fifth ... letters are coded by the next letters and the remaining by the preceding letters from the alphabetical order.

- (c) 50 metres.



- (d) MR and TU.
- (b)
- (d)
- (a)
- (a) The pace of the movement is 1 and 3 steps and the figure that reaches the right top is changed.
- (c) Mark the changes in the direction of legs and the lines above.
- (c) The lines rotate and change shape by turns.
- (b) Observe the directions in which the dot, dash and

- cross move
- 20 (e) The changing figure and the black triangle with a base line go clockwise, the remaining anti clockwise changing direction/colour after each two steps
 - 21 (d) The first three figures tilt upside down by turn and the inner pattern changes colour
 - 22 (c) The black leaf covers the lines anti-clockwise, increasing one pace in each next step, the arrow skips one line clockwise
 - 23 (d) The square and Y move after two blocks the remaining in each next one
 - 24 (c) The pins are added according to a set pattern
 - 25 (b) Study the figures in sets of two and see how the figures at the end move and change in direction
 - 26 (b) The inner figure becomes outer one and vice versa the outer one turns upside down as well
 - 27 (d) Observe how the (√) sign moves changing direction too
 - 28 (c) Lines tilt and the figures at the ends change according to a set pattern
 - 29 (b) First the lines skip 1 2 having one additional small line at the end of one of the lines clockwise After third figure the same movement is repeated anti clockwise
 - 30 (e) Observe how the direction changes in sets of two
 - 31 (e) Each figure has its own repetitions pace and direction
 - 32 (d) The black pattern skips one extra line after two steps and changes direction
 - 33 (d) The figure rotates for the first three steps only one side changes then the process involves two sides
 - 34 (a) The pin covers one extra step anti clockwise (start the first by counting two) the figure at the corner goes round clockwise covering extra distance
 - 35 (c) Make the figure on a piece of paper rotate it to get the answer
 - 36 (b) In sets of two the figures change direction
 - 37 (c) The petals are added to the last petal clockwise
 - 38 (c) The figures move and are added according to a definite pattern
 - 39 (c) For the missing line count 2 4 6 8 clockwise and the pin head skips one extra line anti clockwise
 - 40 (d) Make the figure on a piece of paper and colour one and half triangles by turns
- 41 to 45 The best way to solve these problems is by either drawing the first two figures on a piece of paper and match them with the next set or study the smaller figures one by one
- 41 (d)
 - 42 (b)
 - 43 (a)
 - 44 (c)
 - 45 (c)
 - 46 (c) In all the others the three similar curves occur together
 - 47 (a) The angle having two arrows is the opposite one
 - 48 (a) The dots are in wrong blocks
 - 49 (c) The dark leaf is not in the usual direction
 - 50 (d) The line ought to be in the opposite direction

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TEST OF REASONING—II

Find the odd-man out:

1. (a) Patna (b) Bhopal (c) Indore
(d) Chandigarh (e) Jaipur
2. (a) eye-brow (b) eye-lashes (c) eye-lids
(d) whiskers (e) beard
3. (a) hammer (b) nail (c) spade
(d) needle (e) scissors
4. (a) pansy (b) roses (c) tulips
(d) daffodils (e) lotus
5. (a) friend (b) foe (c) ally
(d) colleague (e) companion
6. (a) miller (b) chemist (c) tailor
(d) waiter (e) consumer
7. (a) isthmus (b) cliff (c) gorge
(d) pass (e) peak
8. (a) antipathy (b) allopathy (c) natureopathy
(d) homocopathy (e) surgery

In each of the questions given below, the two items mentioned in the question have a definite relationship. Your task is to find out from (a), (b), (c) and (d) the pair of items with similar relationship.

9. telephone : communication
(a) television : feature films (b) music : notation
(c) environment : pollution (d) truck : transportation
10. rubber : pencil work
(a) spectacles : eyes (b) razor : beard
(c) brush : colour (d) wiper : glass
11. bottle : liquid
(a) furniture : wood (b) skull : brain
(c) class-room : knowledge (d) tears : sorrow
12. snake : python
(a) nail : screw (b) tiger : cow
(c) cup : glass (d) fashion : designer
13. sleep : dream
(a) temple : worship (b) work : duty
(c) day : light (d) youth : romance
14. ascetic : atheist
(a) exclaim : declare (b) priest : hermit
(c) mild : extreme (d) comfort : body
15. luscious : delicious
(a) lean : thin (b) garden : flowers
(c) danger : horror (d) paint : enamel
16. hemisphere : globe
(a) valley : mountain (b) planet : sun
(c) fortnight : month (d) disc : television

Items in questions 17 to 21 are related to one another in a certain way. Match them with items in (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) on the basis of identical relationship. The order of the items may not be the same.

17. cart : bullocks : horse
(a) blade : dagger : handle
18. room : cabin : hall
(b) insect : beetle : butterfly
19. deck : mast : ship
(c) luna : motor-cycle : scooter
20. illusion : deception : imagination
(d) solar : atomic : energy

21. plague : disease : malaria

(e) award : prize : reward

Each letter of the words given in the following questions has been written in code. Your task is to find out the right code for letters enclosed in box.

22. H O R N E T
(a) k (b) c (c) z (d) w (e) p (f) d
23. M A S T E R
(a) x (b) w (c) v (d) l (e) d (f) c
24. A M B U S H
(a) q (b) v (c) l (d) x (e) z (f) f
25. R E G A I N
(a) w (b) y (c) d (d) p (e) l (f) i
26. B R I G H T
(a) z (b) c (c) j (d) y (e) d (f) q
27. S T R I K E
(a) c (b) d (c) x (d) b (e) w (f) y

According to a code

'sok hok wok dok' means 'President is in danger.'

'nok dok rok lok' means 'Who is his bodyguard.'

'bok cok nok sok' means 'President needs no bodyguard.'

'lok mok hok bok' means 'His danger needs investigation.'

28. What is the code for bodyguard?
(a) dok (b) bok (c) rok
(d) nok (e) None of these
29. The code 'rok' means:
(a) President (b) is (c) his
(d) bodyguard (e) None of these
30. The code for 'investigation is useless' would be:
(a) hok tok dok (b) dok mok tok
(c) tok lok mok (d) tok sok cok
(e) tok mok hok

Two brothers A and B had to reach their destinations exactly at 9 A.M. A started from his home, went 2 km west, turned left and walked for 1 km and finally turned left and after walking for 1 km reached his destination. He stayed there for 35 minutes and returned home. B started from home towards south; after 1 km he turned right; after another km he turned left and finally after walking 1 km he again turned left and reached his destination after walking for 2 km. He stayed there for 10 minutes and then started the journey back to his home. The average speed of A is 5 km per hour while the speed of his younger brother B is 4 km per hour during their walk.

31. How far is A's destination from B's destination and in which direction?

- (a) 1 km north (b) 1 km south
(c) 2 km west (d) 1 km east
(e) None of these
32. At what time did A start from his home?
(a) 8 A.M. (b) 8.30 A.M. (c) 8.10 A.M.
(d) 8.12 A.M. (e) None of these

33. Who reached earlier and how much before the other?

- (a) B, 4 mts earlier (b) A, 2 mts earlier
(c) B, 2 mts earlier (d) Both reached together
(e) None of these

34. A joker's bicycle has two wheels, one with a diameter of 35 cm and the other with a diameter of 21 cm. On a 33 m track, how many times would the wheels revolve?

- (a) the small one 48 times and the big one 36 times
(b) the small one 45 times, the big one 27 times
(c) the small one 55 times, the big one 33 times
(d) the small one 50 times, the big one 30 times
(e) None of these

Six friends Bhushan, Chetan, Farooq, Gyan, Harendra and Suresh live in Baroda, Calcutta, Fatehpur, Guwahati, Haridwar and Surat and are very good in badminton, cricket, football, gymnastics, hockey and swimming but not in the same order. Read the following information and match the persons with cities in which they live and the games that they play.

- (i) The first letter of the name of the person, the city he lives in and the game he plays is never the same.
(ii) Chetan and Bhushan do not live in Surat and Haridwar nor are they interested in hockey or swimming.
(iii) Cricket and gymnastics do not interest Harendra or Bhushan.
(iv) Suresh and Farooq do not live in Baroda or Guwahati.
(v) Chetan and Gyan do not stay at Fatehpur.
(vi) Harendra and Farooq do not play badminton.
(vii) Suresh does not live in Haridwar or Fatehpur.
(viii) Hockey player and the gymnast do not live in Calcutta.
(ix) Farooq is not a hockey-player
- | | | |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| 35. Bhushan | A. Badminton | (a) Baroda |
| 36. Chetan | B. Cricket | (b) Calcutta |
| 37. Farooq | C. Football | (c) Fatehpur |
| 38. Gyan | D. Gymnastics | (d) Guwahati |
| 39. Harendra | E. Hockey | (e) Haridwar |
| 40. Suresh | F. Swimming | (f) Surat |

SYLLOGISMS

In each question below are given two statements followed by four conclusions numbered I, II, III and IV. You have to take everything given in the statements to be true although it may seem at variance with commonly accepted facts. Then decide which of the conclusions follow from the statements. Tick mark the right answer from (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e).

Statements:

41. 1. All thieves are policemen.
2. Some policemen are judges.

Conclusions:

- I. All thieves are judges.
II. No thief is a judge.
III. Some thieves are judges.
IV. All the policemen are thieves
- (a) Only I and II follow. (b) Only II and III follow.
(c) Either III or IV follows.
(d) Anyone from I, II and III follows.
(e) All the four follow.

Statements:

42. 1. Some books are newspapers.
2. Some newspapers are pamphlets.

Conclusions:

- I. Some books are pamphlets.
II. Every pamphlet is either a book or a newspaper.
III. No pamphlet is a book.
IV. Some newspapers are not pamphlets.
- (a) Only I follows. (b) Only II and III follow.
(c) Either I or III follows. (d) Either II or IV follows.
(e) Only IV follows.

Statements:

43. 1. All clocks are glasses.
2. All glasses are mirrors.

Conclusions:

- I. All glasses are clocks.
II. All clocks are mirrors.
III. Some mirrors are glasses.
IV. No mirror is a clock.
- (a) Only I and II follow. (b) Only II follows.
(c) Only II and III follow. (d) Only III and IV follow.
(e) Only I and IV follow

Statements:

44. 1. Some gardeners are masons.
2. All masons are carpenters.

Conclusions:

- I. Some gardeners are carpenters.
II. All masons are gardeners.
III. Every mason is either a carpenter or a gardener.
IV. All carpenters are masons.
- (a) Only I follows. (b) Only II follows.
(c) Only II and III follow (d) Either I or II follows
(e) None follows.

Statements:

45. 1. Some walls are doors.
2. Some roofs are doors.

Conclusions:

- I. Every door is either a wall or a roof.
II. Some walls are roofs.
III. No wall is a roof.
IV. All the doors are walls as well as roofs.
- (a) Only I follows. (b) Either II or III follows.
(c) Either II or IV follows. (d) Both III and IV follow.
(e) None follows

Statements:

46. 1. All dogs are foxes
2. All tigers are foxes

Conclusions:

- I. Some foxes are dogs as well as tigers
II. No fox is tiger as well as dog.
III. Every fox is either dog or tiger.
IV. All tigers are dogs.
- (a) Either I or II follows. (b) Only I and II follow.
(c) Only II and IV follow. (d) Only IV follows.
(e) None follows.

Statements:

47. 1. Only those cups are costly which are not red.
2. Some red cups are green.

Conclusions:

- I. Some green cups are not costly.
II. Some cups are not red.
III. Some cups are costly.
IV. Cups other than red are costly.
- (a) Only I and II follow. (b) Only II and III follow.
(c) Only II, III and IV follow.
(d) Either I or III follows.
(e) All the four follow.

Statements:

48. 1. All those objects can fly which are either heavy or blue.
2. Some cows are blue but they are not heavy.

Conclusions:

- I. The cows that are not blue are heavy.
II. Some cows can fly.
III. All flying objects are heavy and blue.
IV. The cows that can fly are not blue.
(a) Only I follows. (b) Only II follows.
(c) Only III follows. (d) Only IV follows.
(e) None follows.

Statements:

49. 1. Monkeys are heavier than logs but lighter than rocks.
2. Elephants are lighter than trees but heavier than rocks.

Conclusions:

- I. Logs are lighter than trees
II. Elephants are heavier than monkeys.
III. Trees are the heaviest among these items.
IV. Rocks are heavier than logs.
(a) Only I and II follow.
(b) Only II, III and IV follow.
(c) Either I or IV follows. (d) Only I, III and IV follow.
(e) All the four follow

Statements:

50. 1. All the squares are hollow.
2. All the circles are squares

Conclusions:

- I. All the circles are hollow.
II. Some circles are squares.
III. All the hollow items are either squares or circles.
IV. All the squares are circles.
(a) Only I and II follow. (b) Only II and III follow.
(c) Either II or IV follow. (d) Only IV follows.
(e) None follows.

The Management and the Principal of a Secondary school instructed the librarian of the school to buy some books relating to the lives of some of the great historical figures of our country. The librarian contacted a local dealer who brought ten books mentioned in questions 51 to 60. The following conditions, however, are to be observed in the purchase.

- (i) Only those books are to be purchased which are related to the events of great men in 19th century or before.
(ii) The book should not have more than hundred pages and should not cost more than Rs 65.
(iii) The book must be published in '93 or after that. If all the other conditions are fulfilled but it is a 1993 edition then the purchase has to be sanctioned by the Principal. If it is a 1992 edition but the book is an award winner then the permission would be given by the Management of the school.
(iv) If the book is based on the life history of a freedom fighter and costs more than Rs 65 but not more than Rs 85 then the permission to buy it would be granted jointly by the Principal and the Management.
(v) If the book has more than 200 pages but not more than 250 and the other conditions are fulfilled then the book would be approved by the Principal of the school.

Apply the above conditions to the books brought by the book-

seller. Mark your answers:

- (a) if the librarian can buy the book directly.
(b) if the permission would be granted by the Principal.
(c) if the decision would be taken by the Management.
(d) if the purchase would be made after referring the book to both, the Principal and the Management.
(e) if the book is to be rejected.
51. Maharani Laxmi Bai of Jhansi : The book costs Rs 74, has 136 pages and was published in 1994.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
52. Akbar the Great : It is an 1995 edition, the cost is Rs 55. The book is an award winner and has 276 pages.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
53. Noor Jahan : The book has 198 pages, was published in 1993 and costs Rs 60. The book is an award winner.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
54. Maharana Pratap : It is a 1994 edition. The book has 188 pages and costs Rs 63.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
55. Gandhi : The book costs Rs 54, has 190 pages and it is a 1995 edition. It won a national award.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
56. Ashok the Great : The book has 248 pages. It is a 1994 edition and the cost is Rs 58.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
57. Bahadur Shah Zafar : The book won two awards. It has 250 pages. The cost is Rs 60 and only 1992 edition is available.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
58. Shivaji : The book has 200 pages, costs Rs 65 and won a national award. The edition is of 1996
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
59. Tipu Sultan : Published in 1992, this book won several awards. It costs Rs 80 and has 220 pages.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
60. Ahilya Bai : The book based on the life of the great Shivaji's mother has 268 pages, costs Rs 87 and was published in 1995.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

In each question below is given a statement followed by three assumptions numbered I, II and III. An assumption is something supposed or taken for granted. You have to consider the statement and the assumptions and decide which of the assumptions is implicit in the statement. Then decide which of the answers is correct.

Statement:

61. If the eleventh Lok Sabha formed in 1996 completes its full term, it will continue to function till the next century.

Assumptions:

- I. The term of the Lok Sabha is more than 3 years.
II. There are some possibilities that the Lok Sabha may not complete its full term.
III. No previous Lok Sabha has ever completed its full term.
(a) Only I is implicit.
(b) Only I and II are implicit.
(c) Only II and III are implicit. (d) Only II is implicit.
(e) Only III is implicit.

Statement:

62. The manager of a very big book company suggests that books should be introduced on cassettes for the fact that reading habit is on the decline.

Assumptions:

- I. There are no good modern writers.
II. A book on paper can be easily converted into a

cassette.

III. Listening to cassettes is more interesting than reading.

- (a) Only I is implicit. (b) Only II is implicit.
(c) Either II or III is implicit. (d) Only IV is implicit.
(e) None is implicit.

Statement:

63. A progressive farmer has donated Rs one lakh to one of the Agricultural University.

Assumptions:

- I. The University gets no grant from UGC.
II. The farmer himself is an old student of the Agricultural University.
III. The farmer was impressed by the Agricultural University and wanted its further development.

- (a) Only I is implicit. (b) Only II is implicit.
(c) Only III is implicit. (d) Either I or III is implicit.
(e) None is implicit.

Statement:

64. Politicians have always encouraged the rise of slums and illegal colonies for their political interests.

Assumptions:

- I. The politicians themselves live in slums and illegal colonies.
II. These politicians look after the interests of the poor people very well.
III. The dwellers of these areas are constantly exploited and made use of by politicians.

- (a) Only I is implicit. (b) Either I or II is implicit.
(c) Either II or III is implicit.
(d) Only II and III are implicit.
(e) None is implicit.

Statement:

65. Film directors think that packing the films with seductive songs and dance numbers, some hair raising stunts and crimes would make them successful at the box-office, but they are unable to fool the people.

Assumptions:

- I. The general public does not appreciate the old formula much.
II. The film-directors lack original ideas in most of the cases.
III. Films with new original engrossing scripts are more appreciated by the public than 'masala' films.

- (a) Only I and II are implicit.
(b) Only III is implicit.
(c) Only II and III are implicit.
(d) All are implicit. (e) None is implicit.

In each question below is given a statement followed by three courses of action numbered I, II and III. A course of action is a step or an administrative decision to be taken for improvement, follow up or further promotion of an action in regard to the problem, policy etc on the basis of the information given in the statement. You have to assume everything in the statement to be true, then decide which of the three suggested courses of action logically follow for pursuing.

Statement:

66. The Sports Council feels that some of the tribals and young persons from rural areas are very much talented in the field of sports.

Courses of action:

- I. The Council should organize special sports meets for the rural and tribal areas.
II. The talented young persons should be sent to special training camps.

III. Every rural and tribal area should have a stadium.

- (a) Only I and II follow. (b) Only II and III follow.
(c) Either I or III follows. (d) All the three follow.
(e) None follows.

Statement:

67. Drug addiction among college students is gaining more and more popularity.

Courses of action:

- I. The college staff should be extra careful to spot the drug addicts.
II. A committee of the senior dedicated students should be formed to stop the new-comers from getting into this evil.
III. The persons who supply these drugs should be handed over to the police and severely punished.

- (a) Only I and II follow. (b) Only II and III follow.
(c) Only II follows. (d) All the three follow.
(e) None follows.

Statement:

68. It has been observed that all the new employees in a government office who were selected after an interview belonged to the same caste.

Courses of action:

- I. A Committee should be formed at a higher level to check the integrity of the members of the selection committee.
II. All the new appointments should be cancelled.
III. All the senior staff of the office should be transferred.

- (a) Only I follows (b) Only I and II follow.
(c) Only II follows. (d) Only I and III follow.
(e) None follows.

Statement:

69. Some of the TV ads are rather embarrassing when the whole family is watching the programmes together

Courses of action:

- I. The DD should invite comments of the viewers on ads and make necessary changes in some of them if the viewers demand.
II. The body that approves ads should have members from all age groups and all sections of society.
III. The families should be specially instructed to switch-off their sets during certain ads if all the members are watching the programme together.

- (a) Only I follows. (b) Only II follows.
(c) Only III follows.
(d) Only I and II follow.
(e) Either I or III follows.

Statement:

70. Beggary is constantly on increase, specially around holy places and shrines.

Courses of action:

- I. Beggary should be prohibited by law.
II. A general appeal should be made to the public as not to give alms to the beggars.
III. Some sort of employment should be made available to beggars.

- (a) Only I and II follow.
(b) Only II and III follow.
(c) Only I follows.
(d) Either I or III follows.
(e) All the three follow.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (c) All the others are capitals.
2. (c) All the others have hair.
3. (b) All the others are equipments for performing some task.
4. (e) This is the only water-plant among others.
5. (d) All the others show personal relationship.
6. (e) All the others are related to professions.
7. (a) All the other terms are related with mountains.
8. (a) All the others are modes of treatment.
9. (d) They have object and carrier relationship.
10. (b) One erases the other.
11. (b) One contains the other.
12. (a) Both are different items of the same category.
13. (d) One takes place during the phase mentioned.
14. (c) They are opposites.
15. (a) Both almost mean the same with a slight shade of difference.

16. (c) One is half of the other.

17. (d) 18. (c) 19. (a) 20. (e) 21. (b)

For answering the next set of questions, sort out common letters/words and match them with common codes.

22. (e) 23. (c) 24. (a) 25. (b)
26. (b) 27. (d) 28. (d) 29. (e)

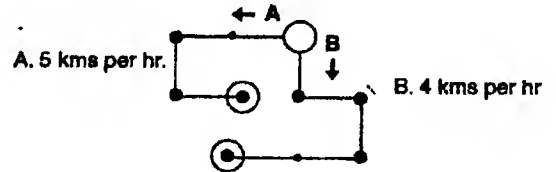
30. (b)

31. (a)

32. (d)

33. (b)

34. (d)



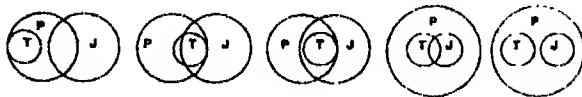
For answering questions 35 to 40, make a chart and go on marking it as follows:

Names	Badm	Crick	Foot	Gymn	Hockey	Swim	Baroda	Calcutta	Fateh	Guwa	Hand	Surat
Bhushan	x				x	x	x				x	x
Chetan		x			x	x		x			x	x
Farooq			x						x			
Gyan				x						x		
Harendra					x						x	
Suresh						x						x

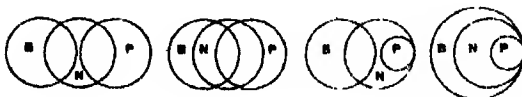
35. Cd 36. Da 37. Be 38. Ef 39. Fc
40. Ab

The next type of questions are best answered by drawing diagrams of all the probable situations and then reaching the fool proof conclusion. Let each item be represented by a circle irrespective of its size. Given below are some examples.

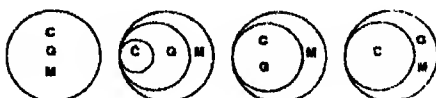
41. (d)



42. (c)



43. (c)



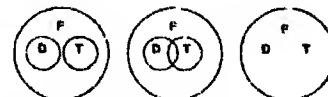
44. (a)



45. (b)



46. (a)



47. (e) 48. (b) 49. (e) 50. (a)
51. (d) 52. (e) 53. (b) 54. (a)
55. (e) 56. (b) 57. (c) 58. (a)
59. (d) 60. (e) 61. (b) 62. (e)
63. (c) 64. (c) 65. (d) 66. (a)
67. (d) 68. (a) 69. (d) 70. (c)

APPOINTED; ELECTED ETC

Mahabir Prasad: Governor of Haryana, he has been appointed as the acting Governor of Himachal Pradesh.

Bhumudhar Barman: Health Minister of Assam, he has been sworn in as the caretaker Chief Minister.

Prem Kumar Budhwar: He has been appointed India's Ambassador to Russia. He was earlier India's High Commissioner to Canada.

Gopal Krishna Gandhi: Grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, he has been appointed as Indian High Commissioner to South Africa.

Gurdip Singh Bedi: India's Ambassador to Brazil, he has been appointed as High Commissioner of India to Canada.

Vijay Nambiar: India's High Commissioner to Malaysia, he has been appointed as India's Ambassador to Sweden.

R.L. Narayan: He has been appointed as India's Ambassador to Qatar.

RESIGNED

Sheila Kaul: Governor of Himachal Pradesh, who resigned after the President voiced his opinion publicly that she should step down in the wake of her involvement in the housing scam when she was the Urban Development Minister.

Motilal Vora: Governor of Uttar Pradesh.

P Shiv Shankar: Governor of Kerala.

DIED

Hiteshwar Saikia: Assam Chief Minister, who died following a heart attack. He was 61.

Jagdish Chander: Noted Hindi novelist from Jalandhar. He died at his home after a heart attack.

Rasheeduddin Khan: Eminent social scientist and educationist.

—Campaign ends for the second phase of polling for the Lok Sabha seats.

MAY

1—Governors Shiv Shankar and Motilal Vora resign following their implication by the CBI in the hawala case.

—The United Nations officially declares that it is "broke" and borrowing money from peace-keeping missions to finance the day to day operations.

2—At least eight people are killed and several injured in poll violence during the second phase of Lok Sabha and Assembly polling which witness 50 to 55 per cent voter turnout.

3—Controversial godman Chandraswami and his secretary are arrested and sent to Tihar jail.

EVENTS

APRIL

8—Sri Lanka's President Chandrika Kumaratunga declares a state of emergency triggering speculation of an army offensive against the LTTE.

13—Thirty six people are killed in Andhra Pradesh when a bus plunges into the Godavari river.

14—CBI seeks President's sanction to record the statement of Himachal Pradesh Governor and former Urban Development Minister Sheila Kaul for her involvement in the housing scam.

—A powerful bomb rips through Imran Khan's Shaikat Khanum Memorial Trust Hospital in Lahore.

—Israel warplanes pound guerilla strongholds in South Beirut escalating their four-day old campaign.

15—Thirty-five people, including 20 terrorists are killed in J&K. Congress leader escapes attack on life.

17—The US government says that it is going ahead with its planned delivery of

arms worth \$ 368 million to Pakistan under the terms of the Brown Amendment.

18—More than 60 people are killed when the Gorakhpur-Gonda passenger train rams into a goods train at Domingarh near Gorakhpur.

—Israeli shells kill 43 refugees in UN base in South Lebanon.

22—Assam Chief Minister Hiteshwar Saikia dies after a heart attack.

25—Campaigning ends for the first phase of polling.

27—Following a ceasefire between Israel and the Hezbollah guerillas, thousands of Lebanese refugees are able to go home.

—While 60% turnout is reported for the first round of polling, two people are killed in stray incidents.

28—Sixty people are killed when a powerful bomb explodes in a bus south of Lahore.

30—Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has talks with US President Bill Clinton on his official visit to the US.

MILESTONES

Jessica Dubroff: Seven-year old American girl trying to become the youngest person to fly across the US, but was killed when her plane crashed. Her death sparked off a debate about parental pressure on children to become under-age achievers.

Sqn Ldr Sanjay Thapar: The first Indian to land and put up the national flag on the North Pole. Sqn Ldr Thapar of the Indian Air Force took part in the Fourth International North Pole Parachute jump expedition in Moscow.

V.S. Naipaul: Writer of Indian origin, who has married Pakistani columnist Nadira Alvi.

M.C. Mehta: One of the six environmental heroes who have been selected from around the world to receive the seventh annual Goldman environmental prizes. He is a lawyer who has obtained landmark judgments from the Supreme Court regarding environment protection.

S.P. Godrej: He has been honoured with Japan's Order of the Rising Sun, a high imperial privilege.



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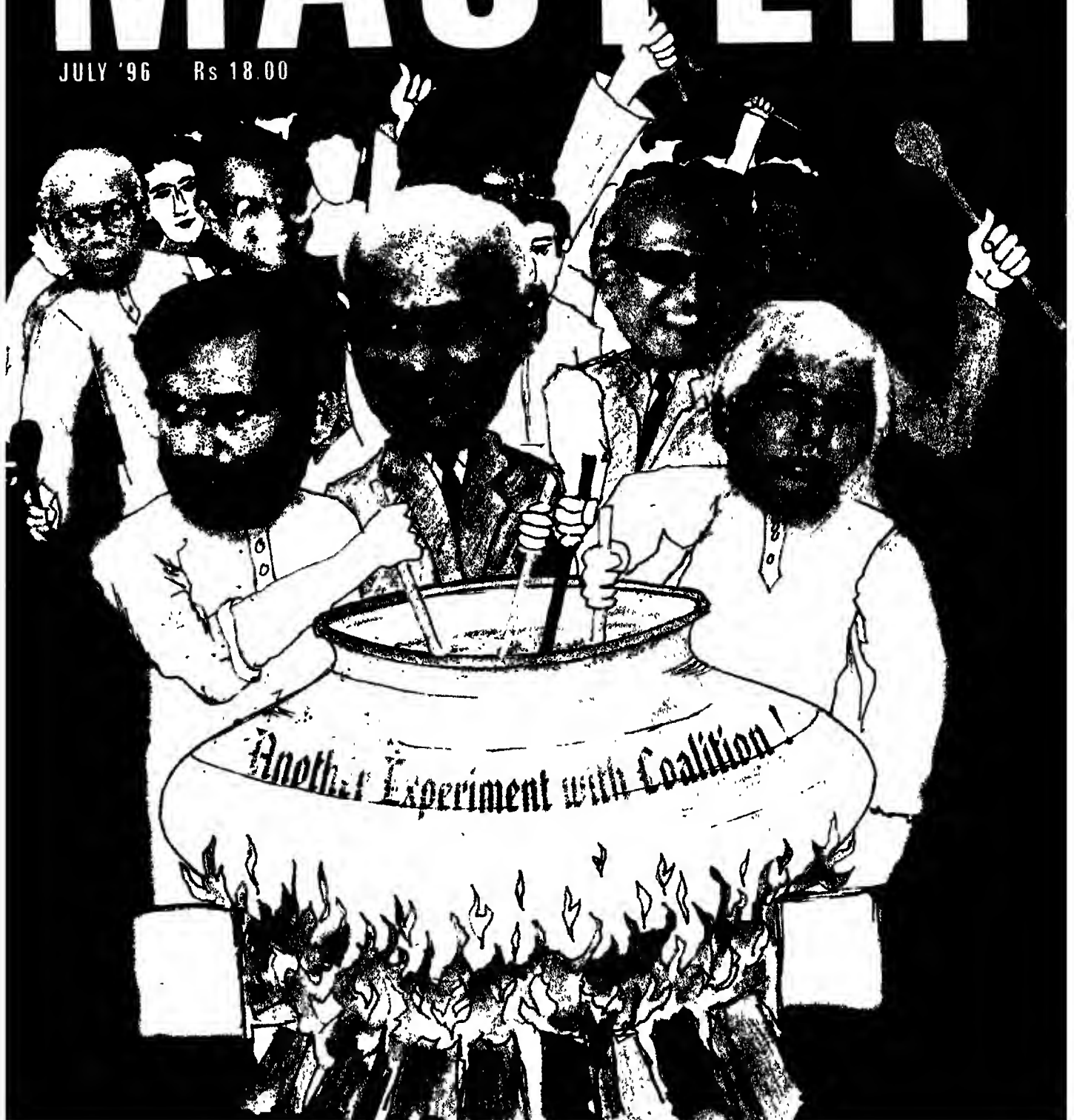
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THE COMPETITION

MASTER

From the Desk of the

Editor



Dear Masters,

With this issue, *The Competition Master* completes 37 glorious years of publication. We are grateful to our readers for their love and respect. All these years we had a single-minded goal—to provide valuable information to our readers.

September '95 we published our cover story on Cyberspace, to help you learn about the latest developments and technologies that are emerging today. Readers responded favourably and expressed a desire to know about the new developments which everybody talks about but are not made clear to the ordinary reader. Cyberspace was particularly intriguing, and the hype associated with it was almost deafening. While presenting the subject, we also raised the query whether it will be the ultimate tool of democracy or, in a country where people do not have access to a telephone, it will become a toy of the rich. As access to Internet has spread in this country, this question is increasingly being asked today.

We followed the story on Cyberspace with cover stories on Space in December '95 and Genetics the following month. In May '96 we covered telecommunications, which had become an emerging industry as a result of opening up of the Indian market. We did these stories not only to help you understand emerging technologies but also to help you focus on careers emerging out of these technologies.

Our coverage of emerging technologies will continue in the future. We will also cover 'live' subjects, as we did last month and this month, on the changes taking place in our country, while also covering topics of interest to the youth. The *Competition Master* will thus remain your best bet for preparing for examinations and careers. Do let us know what you think. The August '96 issue will be a special issue with lots of extra information bundled into it. We look forward to your patronage, as usual.

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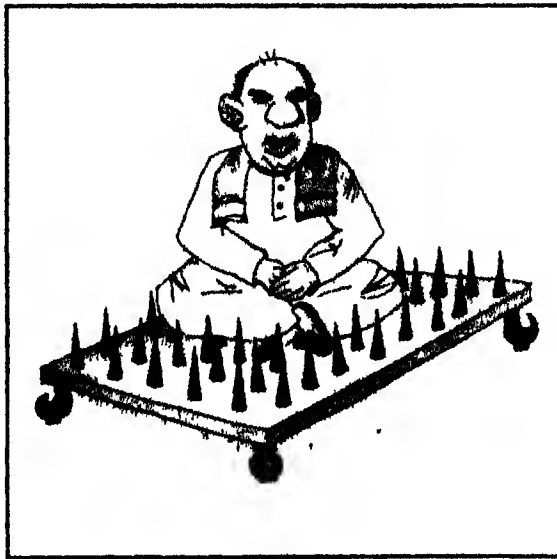
Enter Mr Deve Gowda. History has the nasty habit of repeating itself. The new government (if it can be called one) will depend on wily Congress supporting it from "outside". Two governments, headed by Ch Charan Singh and Chander Shekhar respectively, bear testimony to the fact that Congress is not only unethical but also highly undependable. The United(?) Front better watch! The stony silence of the former Congress

Prime Minister in the Lok Sabha spoke louder than the shouting crows. Beware a silent brooding politician!

In the euphoria generated by the resignation of the government, the conglomeration of political groups has blinked away the fact that their new "leader" is not even a member of the Lok Sabha. He has to get himself elected to the House within six months. Is Mr R.K. Hegde listening? If Mr Vajpayee's Government has created a history of sorts, the new one may create yet another!

While we commend the performances of the outgoing Prime Minister on the floor of the House, the

performances of the then opposition made one think that they are more a bunch of unruly hecklers and filibusterers than parliamentarians. Decency and decorum have not rubbed them even in the passing. And they are our "leaders". The Speaker stood up many times and folded his hands to make the "leaders" resume their seat or restrain their tongue. If the trend continues, the only order prevailing in the House will be disorder!



The new dispensation in the form of government is already sailing into rough waters with Mulayam Singh as the centre of the controversy as a possible Home Minister. The Hawala-tainted ministers provide another thorny preposition. Balancing the new government from a motley crowd of aspirants for ministerial posts is an exercise likely to test the toughest and shrewdest of Prime Ministers. Thus, Mr Deve Gowda has a huge soft underbelly.

The BJP has now to play the role of the opposition. Mr Vajpayee made a pointed

reference to his party's future role. His assurance of cooperation with the government upholds high tradition of democracy and parliamentary form of government. This is in sharp contrast to what he had faced from the UF, then in opposition. In a future poll, the impression left by Mr Vajpayee should stand his party in good stead.

While we wish the new government of Mr Deve Gowda all good luck, we whisper a word of caution: beware of pint-sized non-speaking oracles of the defeated party.



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READERS' FORUM

The best two letters of the month, appearing in the box, have been awarded a prize of Rs 100.00 each. Readers are invited to send us their views on topics covered in this issue. The decision of the Editors will be final.

TELECOM REVOLUTION

Though India is getting new technology in the form of telephones and state of the art gadgets, the access is limited to urban areas only. There are thousands of villages which do not get basic amenities like safe drinking water. The development of our country is therefore skewed. Only when the nation as a whole gets technology in all areas, can we hope for equitable development, which benefits all the people.

Arun Kumar Rai
Allahabad, U.P.

We live in the age of information revolution. Your cover feature described the new products and technologies that are leading this revolution. It will be wonderful if costs come down and we can communicate with anybody for the cost of a local call. I hope that day comes soon.

Dhanjit Pathale
Tezpur, Assam

Faster and cheaper communication is a blessing in today's fast changing world. With increased competition, services will also become cheaper and this will help the common man.

Santosh Kumar Nair
Bhopal, M.P.

SINKING STANDARDS

It is true that standards are sinking, but the blame lies on our leaders. My suggestion is that graduation should be made compulsory for a person to become MP or MLA. Educated people will, hopefully, set a better example to the people and standards can thus improve.

Bhavana Sharma
Jaipur, Rajasthan

There are some good people in the country who have made their name and set high standards. If everybody starts emulating their examples, standards will begin to rise in all areas.

Lopamudra Mohanty
Cuttack, Orissa

Your editorial is thought-provoking and heart-rending. Unless our leaders scrupulously adhere to their promises and adhere to them in letter and spirit, chances of revival will be very bleak.

K. Ravi Shankar
Coimbatore

I hope that our leaders realise the importance of culture, discipline and decency since that is the only way that sinking standards can be checked.

A.C. Arvind Kumar
c/o 56 APO

STOCK MARKET

The cover feature 'Understanding the Stock Market' was excellent and helped me to get to know terms and concepts associated with it. By publishing such articles, you are exposing young people to new careers and helping them to understand what goes on around them.

P. Vishnu Priya
Vellore, A.P.

SPEAKING THE TRUTH

We should adopt truth as a principle of life. But there are situations when it may cause hurt and anguish. In such cases, it may be better to remain silent than speak a lie.

Supriya Acharya
Sambalpur, Orissa

CM FEATURES

Your features are of a great help for appearing in different examinations. They also help to develop one's personality.

Rajeev R.M.
Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala

Your management feature is unique

TELECOM ONLY FOR THE RICH?

The telecom revolution is great, but for whom? Why should there not be revolution in post and telegraphs, which are used by the common man? Even today, mail is frequently delayed in distant villages and telegrams reach in four to five days. Many villages do not have telegraph or speed-post facility. It seems that a powerful lobby of rich industrialists is creating facilities in the country for themselves. In the process, the country is losing its foreign exchange to multinational companies, who are the real beneficiaries of the telecom revolution. I hope that something is done for the common people too.

Nesar Ahmed
New Delhi

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Sulah, Kangra, H.P.

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U.C. Mutgud
Gad

I have cleared the SBI-PO exam and found your magazine of great help in preparation. The tests published by you are excellent.

Rajender Kumar
De

REQUEST TO READERS

May be you have appeared in some competitive exams recently. We shall be grateful if you could send us the question papers. All those sending the original question papers will be suitably compensated and the original papers will be returned.

—Editor

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The Bumpy Road of Coalition Politics

The tight-rope walk for Indian politics continues. One government has gone after two weeks and the country has another equally unstable government formed by a minority coalition with the "outside support" of other parties. While the bickerings continue, important policy decisions wait. The country faces hard times ahead even as parties work out the arithmetic of the seats.

If the voter was undecided this time and did not trust any single party, the drama in New Delhi might perhaps expose the power brokers further and help the voter to make up his mind for the next election. Agreed, there are few

choices and one group is equally bad as the other. But the politics of power cornering currently being played will decide which party can offer change with stability, which seems a distant dream today.

The verdict of the 1996 elections is, if anything, a verdict against politicians. They have betrayed the nation's trust time and again. Instead of governing, they have been involved in scandals that would shame an ordinary person. The low voter turnout in many States and the verdict which gives no party a majority shows a disgust for our leaders. This was perhaps the

voter's way of punishing them. There is no leader today who commands the respect of the entire country. Because of the electoral verdict, each leader is forced to look for support elsewhere, simply because the voters do not trust any person or party.

This should be a humbling thought for any leader. But instead of looking for causes for the fractured verdict, the leaders are busy with their strategies, supporting one and pulling down another, ushering in an era of coalition politics and the instability that goes with it. To many, this is politics of opportunism, not of principles or ideology.

Role of President

The hung Parliament and the quest for power of all parties ensured that the President would have to play a decisive role. His was an unenviable position, since any decision was bound to hurt the parties which were not chosen. Since the Constitution is silent about how the President should exercise his choice in the event of a hung Parliament, the decision allows room for discretion.

President Shankar Dayal Sharma invited the single largest party, the BJP, to form the government on May 15, 1996. In doing so, he went by convention and dominant

The 1996 Elections

The 1996 elections generated a lot of interest worldwide. Countries downloaded information on elections on the Internet from Indian sites, India Connect, India World, Rediff and Web India. US and Australia are the two countries where this may have been done, though it is difficult to identify on the Internet who the persons are who download information. Television news were also popular as BBC World was able to get the signals from India's Doordarshan of the live election coverage.

The number of women candidates in the Lok Sabha declined from 37 per cent of the total candidates in 1991 to 33 per cent in 1996. This is unequal representation of the fair sex as it makes up 47 per cent of the electorate—28.24 crore of the 59.15 crore voters.

Of the 14,274 candidates for 543 seats, there were 477 women contestants. Almost two thirds of this figure consisted of independent candidates, the balance women were fielded by political parties. In the tenth Lok Sabha, there were 8,699 candidates for 521 seats and of these, 325 were women. The maximum number of women contested from U.P.

The percentage of voters who cast their vote remained at 50-60 per cent. Since 1952, the percentage has remained around 60 and was maximum in 1984 (64 per cent). The lowest turnout was in 1962 when only 55 per cent voters cast their votes. In other years, the figure remained between 55-62 per cent, implying that 40 per cent of the voters never cast their votes.

legal opinion in the country. Two weeks were given to the BJP to prove its strength.

The largest party principle was perhaps the best way out as any other decision would have been controversial. Whether it has a majority or not, the largest party certainly has the maximum number of seats and can claim to have the mandate of maximum number of people. To bypass the largest party and allow a small group to form a government would certainly

not be democratic.

There have been precedents of this principle. In 1989 the Congress was in a similar position, with 194 seats while the other parties commanded a majority of 282. It was only after the Congress opted not to stake its claim that President Venkataraman invited V.P. Singh to form the government. The principle was followed again in 1991 when the Congress won 241 seats which was again not a majority. The Congress was

invited, being the single largest party. Any other decision would have been a miscarriage of democracy. What President Sharma could have done this time was perhaps to assess whether the BJP could win the vote of confidence or not and advise them accordingly. This was done in 1990 when Chandrashekhar became Prime Minister with just 57 members, and the Congress was advised not to stake its claim. In any case, it is the President's discretion that has to be used in such matters.

The decision to invite the BJP evoked instant protests from the Third Front (TF). Even before assuming power TF leaders were exhibiting their greed. They first made a spectacle of themselves in electing a leader from Iyoli Basu to V.P. Singh and in desperation chose Deve Gowda when they declined. They were disappointed when in spite of their last minute choice, it was BJP which was chosen to form the government.

For the first time the President's office was embroiled in unbecoming scenes. There were acrimonious exchanges with the President and, throwing protocol to the winds, senior TF leaders walked out of Rashtrapati Bhawan. The President's office was thus devalued.

Going by convention, the second largest party should have been called after the BJP failed. Further controversy was avoided when the Congress backed out and chose to back the Third Front instead. In this way, the

minority group got their chance to come to power with support from outside.

Fall of the BJP government

The BJP government lasted only 12 days. Though it was the largest party, it did not have the majority nor could it persuade regional groups to lend support. It was given time upto May 31st to prove its majority but on May 28, 1996, Mr. Vajpayee submitted his resignation after a debate in Parliament which he utilised fully to project the moderate face of his party. There was sympathy for him and he may have won the hearts of the nation perhaps altering the future course of democracy.

Gracious, witty and inspiring Vajpayee emerged as a statesman while his adversaries were made to look like opportunists. The calculations of the BJP in enticing regional groups or even splitting the Congress had gone hopelessly wrong, but even in its fall, it was able to place its agenda before the nation. There was a general feeling that the party was preparing for the next election even as it was bowing out from office this time.

The BJP took pains to assure voters that it was not a communal party. It had hoped to gain by diluting its strident stands on *Hindutva* on Article 370 and on having a uniform civil code. The regional groups, whose support was essential, were not impressed. It was not seen as a secular party. Some thought that lending support to the

BJP would see their own vote bases crumbling. To add to BJP's woes, there was unexpected unity in the Janata Dal and the rebel Congress leaders who demanded Rao's resignation found they could not fight and decided not to raise the flag of revolt. With the result, the debate on the confidence motion became a match of BJP versus the rest.

Thanks to television, the nation could also witness how the Parliament really functions. The live debate on the vote of confidence was one of the few occasions when the benches were full; on normal days, MPs do not bother to come at all. The telecast brought Indian democracy to the Indian viewer, and he was not impressed. If elected representatives behaved in this way, who was to blame for the increasing aggressive behaviour in everyday life?

The beauty of language and oratory of Mr Vajpayee could not save the BJP government against a determined Opposition. One line whips had been issued to members and there was no way that the BJP could have survived. It may be mentioned here that BJP's calculations had gone wrong, but it was the nation which had to pay for this experiment. By delaying the formation of a stable government, the BJP was acting in no less opportunist way than any other party. Thanks to BJP's gamble, the country was without effective government for two more weeks. After Vajpayee's resignation, the way was finally paved for Deve Gowda to try and cobble together an alliance and form a government.

Challenges before Gowda

HD Deve Gowda is the first Chief Minister to become Prime Minister immediately after demitting office. He is also the first Prime Minister who speaks virtually no Hindi. A pragmatic politician, he represents Karnataka's farmers and also the business community. His vision is business-friendly. But his failure in getting his nominee accepted as the new Chief Minister of Karnataka showed that his hold, even in his own State, was limited.

Deve Gowda was sworn-in on June 1, 1996. The Congress pledged support of its 138 members to the new coalition government. But the track record of similar alliances in the past is difficult to live down. Many expect the coalition will hang on a slender thread which would break at the first sign of turbulence. Since the Congress does not want to join it but lend support from outside, the authority of the government will be severely handicapped due to lack of widespread representation. It would be interesting to see how the government functions, with veto powers with both the Congress and the Left. Deve Gowda's biggest liability will thus be carrying the outside supporters with him.

What is remarkable is that the Prime Minister is a leader of a minority group which sends only 28 members to the Lok Sabha. He may be regarded little more than a factional leader in his home State. Will his government

end up as a puppet regime while the big groups pull the strings from outside? Each group will obviously have its conditions for support of the government. The Congress has listed down "minimum conditions" consisting of a full consultation with it in the matter of major decisions. The Congress is keen that its policies continue and the crucial decisions taken by it are not reversed.

Among them is the leasing of the Bailadilla mines to the Mittals and other such decisions whose list has been reportedly been given to Deve Gowda. The second component of the conditions is the rehabilitation of key officials in the Rao administration. Continuation of foreign and economic policy, immunity for key officials of the previous government in the face of CBI investigations and slowdown of St Kitts probe. In other words, it will be a Rao government without Rao. The prospect is unnerving to other supporters of the alliance.

Other groups too will demand concessions for supporting the new government. What will result is a government of opportunists, lacking the ability to take independent decisions. It is anybody's guess how long such an arrangement will continue before Deve Gowda loses patience and decides to face the people again. At present, however, Parliamentary arithmetic requires that all groups are kept in good humour.

It may, on the other hand, be too early to write off the new government. Like Rao before him, Deve Gowda assumes office without big

expectations. Can he pull off the impossible and complete the full term just like Rao was able to?

Dangers to the government

To pull off the seemingly impossible, Deve Gowda has several tasks before him.

Primary among these is keeping the different constituents together and to prevent infighting and ego clashes. Already, chinks in the unity have started showing. Distancing himself from the Third Front, Janata Dal leader Ramakrishna Hegde questioned the rationale behind its formation and expressed serious doubts about the Front being able to carry conviction with the people. He echoed the fears of many people when he said that "people will interpret the combine as a group of opportunists". Hegde's remarks show that egos have started playing and that many Janata Dal leaders are unhappy at the selection of Gowda as the Prime Minister.

Provided that party infighting can be controlled, a major test comes in the formation of the ministry. Since the Janata Dal has few people who can be entrusted with the task of governing the country, Deve Gowda must look beyond party affiliations and look for talent. One important test will be economic policies. Since the electorate has rejected the Manmohan Singh brand of economic reforms that catered to the rich only, he must modify the programme to make it more

poor-oriented. With the Congress insisting that its economic reform programme should continue, whether Gowda will be able to change it will remain doubtful.

Within the overall supervision of the Congress that he must submit to, perhaps Mr Gowda can emerge as a shrewd leader who is able to keep his supporters happy.

A danger lurks within the Congress itself. The party is in a unique position where it is neither in power nor will it occupy Opposition benches. It will have to bear the responsibility for any act of omission or commission on the UF government's part, but will be powerless to rectify these. The Opposition fury will be cornered by the BJP and its allies. Many Congressmen fear that they will neither be able to criticise the government nor be in a position of power; and may be left with nothing to do. Any politician knows that silence is a little short of political suicide. How long will Congressmen remain silent is also anybody's guess and this may lead to further deterioration of the party. The Congress also faces a situation where fresh elections may see a swing towards a moderate BJP.

The situation is also unique since the party is in conflict with NF or its allies in States like Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar and so on. It will be an extraordinary arrangement that the Congress will continue to fight the NF in the States but extend support at the Centre. It is widely felt that it is an unworkable arrangement and unlikely to last.

REGIONAL PARTIES

Regional parties have cornered a substantial chunk of votes in this election. Here are some of the regional parties and what they stand for.

Tamil Nadu: The Dravid Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) combine with Tamil Maanila Congress (TMC) has taken all the 39 Lok Sabha seats. The Congress-AIADMK saw a total rout and was left with 3 seats in the 233-member State assembly. The DMK has been an important party and has fought against imposition of Hindi in the State. It questioned Central taxation and demanded Tamil as the medium of instruction. A socially-oriented party, it will use its strength to demand greater financial powers and a larger role in Indo-Sri Lanka relations.

Assam: The Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) was launched a decade ago by agitating Guwahati students. It has returned to power after 5 years. It has a majority with 59 of the 122 seats and forms a government with its allies the CPI, CPI(M) and the Autonomous State Demand Committee (ASDC). The AGP wants expulsion of non-Assamese and more State autonomy. It also blames the Centre for Assam's underdevelopment even though the State is rich in natural resources. The AGP's victory has sent a wave of apprehension among the non-Assamese about their future.

Punjab: The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) has in the past demanded a separate Sikh State. As an interim measure it sought to redefine Centre-State relations where the Centre would only look after defence, foreign affairs,

communications, railways and currency. The 8 MPs of SAD extended support to the BJP with the understanding that the 1984 rioters would be punished.

Haryana: Bansi Lal's Haryana Vikas Party (HVP) combined with BJP and other allies has 46 of the 90 assembly seats. Bansi Lal was sworn in as Chief Minister, 20 years after he went out. The new government immediately imposed prohibition, which was one of its poll planks.

West Bengal: Jyoti Basu swept to power for the fifth time, which is a record. But the Congress won 82 of the 294 assembly seats, which was its best performance so far. Though the CPI(M) won, its hold in the State may be declining as the results show—it has won 150 seats this time compared to 188 it won in 1991.

Kerala: The CPI(M)-led Left Democratic Front (LDF) won 80 of the 140 assembly seats and emerged a clear winner. The United Democratic Front (UDF) and LDF won 10 seats each of the 20 Lok Sabha seats.

Maharashtra: The Shiv Sena has 15 MPs and lent support to the BJP. Shiv Sena chief Bal Thackeray has a powerful hold and advocates 'sons of the soil' theory.

Andhra Pradesh: N.T. Rama Rao swept the hearts of the people in the 80s and demanded greater autonomy and financial powers. He ordered welfare schemes and the famous scheme of rice to be provided at Rs 2 a kilo. After his death, his son-in-law Chandrababu Naidu, who heads the Telegu Desam Party (TDP), has taken over.

Moreover, the NF-LF commands a presence only in a few States, notably in the South and the East. Can it rule the country with representation from just a few States? One cannot but be impressed with the situation that a minority group can form a government with the "outside

support" of other parties. Perhaps the Congress is allowing this so that the NF will soon discredit themselves by their infighting, as they did in the past, and it can return. But the gains from such a situation is likely to go to the BJP this time, rather than the Congress.

Federal Front

The results of the elections show that the second largest group after the BJP is not the Congress but the regional parties. Including the independents and Communists, 195 of the 534 seats have gone to

regional groups. Increasingly, these groups are playing larger roles in India's politics. Groups like DMK, TMC, AGP and TDP (see box) have now formed a new front, called the "Federal Front". With the formation of this front, it is expected that regional issues will gain more importance in national politics. A discussion on Centre-State relations is likely.

At present the Central government concentrates financial and administrative powers and often misuses Article 356 to dismiss State governments. The voter has sent a clear signal that regional aspirations cannot be swept away by the Centre. The Sarkaria Commission had recommended that balance of resources in favour of State governments be restored and that Article 356 be amended to prevent its misuse in dismissing State governments. The Commission was set up in 1983 and submitted its report consisting of 247 recommendations in October 1987. Nothing has been done since.

It was recommended that the report be debated in Parliament and State legislatures but many MPs have not even seen the report. Panchayats and Zilla Parishads were to be under the State, but have been constituted in a way that the Centre has more control over them. It had also recommended that governors should be appointed in consultation with the Chief Minister. He should preferably be a non-political person and should not go back to active politics after retirement. Article 356 should be used sparingly and

only at the request of the State. These recommendations are observed more in breach than observance. Greater financial autonomy and sharing of revenue and royalty on mineral resources was also recommended.

States which are rich in natural resources, such as Assam and Bihar, are today backward and poor. In many instances this apparent injustice has led to separatist movements. The Sarkaria Commission recommendations are thus important not only to give more powers to the State but also to avoid the separatist movements which are started by people who feel discriminated against. With the rise of regional parties, perhaps the time has come when these issues will come under greater scrutiny.

Support of these groups is extremely important in coalition politics. The regional parties will demand greater autonomy as a precondition for supporting any government at the Centre. It seems likely that administrative reforms will be speeded up, though in many areas, economic reforms have ensured that States have more areas in which to exercise their powers.

If State governments are given more powers, it might even introduce greater responsibility and accountability of the government. It will take up growth programmes needed by the voters. Populist schemes cannot be introduced if they cannot be financed. State governments have tried to privatise certain sectors on their own, because at the local level

How the parties fared

Seats won	1984	1989	1991	1996
Congress	415	197	232	139
BJP	2	85	120	194
NF-LF	92	217	150	186

Congress: The Congress suffered its worst humiliation since independence. From 232 seats it won in 1991, it was down to 139. There were heavy losses in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu. It has been marginalised in Assam, Haryana and Karnataka. The percentage of votes it got plunged to 28.1, a loss of 8.4 per cent. Except in Orissa and West Bengal, there was a swing against the Congress in all States. Its losses were more pronounced in the South than in the North.

BJP: The BJP has emerged as the single largest party, though short of a majority. It seems to be steadily increasing its share, both in terms of seats and percentage of votes. Bihar, Maharashtra and Haryana has seen a swing in favour of BJP. But in non-BJP States, it has not been able to make a dent. The BJP belt extends from Bihar to Karnataka. There is no doubt that the BJP is rising, but it has an uneven base. The young and new voters seem to favour BJP, according to opinion polls. The party has seen consistent additions of voters since its inception.

NF-LF: The NF-LF has had major losses in Bihar. The combine has representation only in a few States. It has gained in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, but lost in Orissa, West Bengal and Bihar. In terms of percentages, the combine has lost 4.7 per cent of votes since 1991.

things like power availability and infrastructure play an important role. To generate funds, subsidies on power and irrigation will be reduced. The Central government, on the other hand, cannot do much in these areas.

Regional Nationalism

The rise of regional parties poses a fresh challenge to national parties and may alter Indian polity like never

before. Unless the national parties learn to address their issues, hung parliaments may become the rule rather than the exception.

It would, however, be wrong to say that regional power play is based on charisma of leaders. Jayalalitha and Lakshmi Parvati found their charisma would not work for them. Laloo Prasad Yadav's belief that he was the leader of all backward castes and minorities in Bihar has also been cracked. Similar is the case in U.P., where the ant

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New All India Memory Record

One of our students R Caudally has set All India Memory Record on 1 Aug 1995. In interviews to many newspapers he said "The secret of my newly developed memory are postal courses *Mind Power Music* and *Mind Power Study Techniques* from the Mind Power Research Institute, Udaipur."

Before joining our courses, he was an average student and scored only 52.3% in High School Exam.

Let me ask you one question. If my course can help someone to set a new memory record, can it not help you to get more success in your exam?

Improve Your Memory Quickly

Of many easy techniques, two are explained here.

ONE. The brain has two memory stores: short-term and long-term. Research shows that without revision, after 24 hours we remember only 18%. After 1 month only 5%. It clearly shows that we must revise. But, most students do not revise systematically, so much of their hard work is wasted. I teach you the powerful techniques "Systematic Revision" and "Daily Routine" so that you can revise and remember more in less time.

TWO. Scientific research has proved that for better memory, we should take rest and not study continuously for hours. You will learn my technique "Rest Routine" to get maximum benefit from the rest. This technique relaxes you, changes your brain waves, and puts you in a "learning state".

Read Faster to Revise Faster

Everyone can learn to read and understand 300, or 500 or more words per minute. But, many of us read only about 100 words per minute. My "Finger Technique" will double your reading speed in 30 minutes. Your reading may be slow if:

- If you read aloud or move lips
- If you do not read aloud but hear the sounds in your mind when you read
- If you read one word at a glance rather than reading many words at a glance
- If, without your knowledge, you read some words again and again.

My course will help you to overcome these habits.

The best use of reading faster is not to study new chapters for the first time, but to revise again and again quickly so that you can remember more in less time. The "Finger Technique" helped me to increase my reading speed from 72 to 1037 words per minute. Here is what two experts say about this technique:

"I am very happy to inform you that my son Ravi Anand increased his reading speed from 228 to surprisingly high 1818 words per minute. Thank you for your course." —Dr M L Singh, MBBS, MS, Eye Surgeon, Bihar

"Unbelievably, I improved my reading speed from 75 to 200 words per minute. My son improved his memory. He also improved his reading speed from 45 to 100."

—Prof M Bhattacharya, PhD, Formerly in USA

I Was Not Always Successful

I want you to know that I was not always highly successful as a student. You can call it luck or chance that I happened to discover a few techniques to study for success. These techniques changed my life and my marks improved in three years from 73.0% to 78.0%, 83.5%, 87.7%. Similarly, I did not get NTS scholarship in class 10 because I made a simple, stupid mistake. Then in class 11, I did not make the mistake and I got success in NTS.

Do you realize that if just a few techniques improved my success so much, what my complete course can do for your success? It now contains much much more than I used to get the success mentioned above.

Actually there are 2 ways to get success:

One. By chance, learn techniques for success yourself. Some people get success this way.

Two. Learn under the guidance of an able teacher who has been successful. In this way, you benefit from teacher's mistakes and experience. Many more people can get success this way. This is the reason why my course is so valuable.

You probably know that in competitions just 1 or 2 more marks can turn failure into success. So, there is no limit to what my course can do for you.

What is Unique About It

My course combines 5000 year old Indian techniques with the latest scientific discoveries in brain research, nutrition, psychology, and music in America and other countries.

In USA, just before returning to India, I spent 1300 dollars (about Rs 42,000) to join two courses to learn 3 more mind power techniques. You will learn them in my course. My personal library has books and courses worth Rs 1,72,10. I have read, experimented, researched with all their techniques and included only the best ones into my course. These techniques are in addition to my own developed techniques in the course.

This course is protected by the Copyright Law, and so nobody can copy my material.

You may now realize that my course is very powerful. Use it for one week to prove to yourself.

If You Are Taking Coaching

Good. It is better to take coaching than to risk failure. Just as a strong foundation helps to build a good building, my course helps you to make the best use of your coaching, tuition, and hard work.

Used by Lakhs World-Wide

Lakhs and lakhs of people from every corner of India and from many parts of the world are benefiting everyday from my course. Consider just this simple fact: If a course from India is used even abroad, the course must be really good.

Do you understand fully that you can decide to order this course now to help you to get success and also to fulfil your parent's hopes and dreams? God's blessings and my best wishes are with you for your success.

BIO-DATA

- B.E. BITS Pilani, M.Tech, IIT Kharagpur, NTSE scholar, Rank 5 Raj School Board.
- World-famous author: I published 3 computer books in USA. One is best selling *MS-DOS Masters* (cost \$27).
- Increased my reading speed from 72 to 1037 words per minute. Was a member of Society for Accelerated Learning & Teaching, USA.
- My first job as an engineer paid only Rs 1000 per MONTH. Just 7 years later, I earned \$50 dollars per HOUR in USA as computer expert.
- At the peak of success, I returned to India to do something in our own country. Now, I spend my full time to do research for students' benefit.
- I also learn French, Sanskrit, Karate, Breaking wooden board by hand, many Meditations, etc.

Music for Success

Mind Power Music has powerful effects on your mind/brain. So, it is not for people with epilepsy, and anyone undergoing psychiatric or electro-therapy.

It is based on scientific research into how the mind works and how to program and control it for our own success. It has sounds from instruments and nature (river, birds). For details on how such relaxing music helps to learn faster, please read USA best-seller books "Superlearning" and "MegaBrain".

The "Hidden-Messages" in music bypass your conscious mind and go to your subconscious mind, and change your behaviour. Here is what people say:

"I have already purchased a course of Mind Power Music. Please send me 6 more for the use of my staff. Thank you." —Rector (Principal), Holy Rock School, Surinam, W.I.

"Very good. It relaxes my body and mind. It reduces the tension of my studies." —Dr Anju Banthya, MBBS, Shree

Money-Back GUARANTEE

Order my course (code 806 or 713) and if you are not fully 100% satisfied, return in 31 days, and I will send MO for your money back (less Rs 20 for postage, handling). No questions will be asked. No risk to you.

Are you thinking how I can give such a unique guarantee? It is because I know from experience that many people benefit on the first day and almost everyone benefits within one week, and so 31 days is more than enough to benefit greatly and to be fully satisfied.

If you order this month, I will also send a poster of *Bapna's Optical Illusion Technique for Concentration*. Keep it as free gift even if you return the course.

Time Does Not Wait for Anyone

It is now up to you. You can turn this page as if you did not even read it and miss this opportunity for more success. Or, you can join this course today.

Will the coming weeks and months make you a much better student by joining this course? Or, will you remain like many others and struggle for success? You decide.

Not sold in shops

To celebrate 10th year of our research institute, we are now offering the following discount prices. Order without wait, because prices will increase in near future.

Name and Description	English Code	Hindi Code	Price + Postage
Mind Power Study Techniques	806	806H	120+15
Mind Power Music Courses			
Memory and Concentration (with free book in English only) (Thousands sold for Rs 110)	111	111H	65+15 (less 110)
Develop Strong Will Power	280	280H	95+15
Special Offers: Save Even More			
All the three above (806, 111, 280)	841	841H	280+15
Both courses 806 and 111	713	713H	185+15

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How to Order

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To order, go to the bank or post office, and quickly send a D.D. or M.O. in the name of M.P.R.I., payable at Udaipur-Rajasthan to:

Director, Mind Power Research Institute
M-7 Mind Power Chambers, Sect 4 Highway
Udaipur (Rajasthan) 313002

Please write your name & address at the (1) bottom of MO form OR (2) back of DD. Write in CAPITAL letters the item code, your name, PIN, address. Don't send TMO or IPO. Allow 1-3 weeks for order processing. Udaipur jurisdiction only.

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BJP votes have been split. All this points to decentralisation of power and the days of one person representing a State may be numbered.

People in States favour leaders who can understand their aspirations and needs. Farmers in States will increasingly be looking for what their leaders can get them from national politics. Macro level economic policy such as the one practised by the Congress is likely to have little effect on people in the States even though the reforms undertaken by it may benefit the regions indirectly.

Leaders like Chidambaram and Scindia, who can translate regional aspirations to national politics will increase in the future. If national parties cannot absorb such changes, they will find their base being eroded away by regional groups. At present the three major parties, Congress, BJP and NF, are too centralised to take this phenomenon into account. But they will have to sooner or later, since regional leaders will not be content to play secondary roles in these parties.

To survive, national parties will have to decentralise. It will not do to seek their support by entering into a convenient alliances whenever a national party is looking for numbers to prove its majority. Whether national parties will be able to address regional issues and in what way remains to be seen.

Coalition Politics

By their nature, coalition governments are unstable. Italy has seen 54 governments

in 50 years. Germany has a stable coalition government while France has come to be a stable fifth republic after a period of churning. All over Europe, coalitions carry with them regional groups and those with special interests, like farmers and workers. However, there is little or no compromise on ideology or the blatant opportunism shown by groups in India to get power.

In India coalitions amount to compromises. The NF, for instance, insisted that it will have nothing to do with Congress with Rao as the leader. That stand was quickly dissolved as it realised that Congress support was essential, with or without Rao. Moreover, support from outside will not be without certain promises to be made by the NF. This would undoubtedly lead to a compromise on the stand and ideology of the National Front.

Another aspect of coalitions in India is that they are not announced before the election but the process of seat gathering begins when the government is to be formed. This leads to trading of MPs. The voter may find that his vote has gone to waste as the party he voted against manages a coalition with other groups and still manages to come to power. To prevent this, coalitions should be announced before the elections so that the voter knows what he is voting for.

In India, the coalition government marks an unstable period, because there are too many regional chiefs in the fray, each with huge egos and equally huge ambition. It

is hoped that the constituent groups learn from the past experiences and try to form a stable government. Whenever the country is unstable, other countries have taken advantage of our vulnerability.

Today, the country faces threats by the US to penalise it for not adhering to Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs). Apart from placing India under the Super-301 provisions which will make it difficult to export, there is also a threat to take India to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) dispute settlement panel for violating provisions relating to drugs and fertilisers.

With lack of decision making government at the Centre, Pakistan may also like to play its Kashmir card again and also raise the issue in

international meetings, as it has been doing. It has already complained about elections in Kashmir and claims they were held by force.

Outgoing Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee had a point when he said that the Third Front does not have an agenda for the country. "We have not heard them say even a word about what they would do for you or the country. They seem to have a single point agenda: stop the BJP at any cost."

Now that the objective has been achieved, will we see the government taking a stand about national issues? Deve Gowda certainly has his hands full, managing the diverse groups within his fold on the one hand and taking some hard decisions about the country on the other.

Left's debut in Centre, via CPI

In a historic decision, the CPI decided on June 2, 1996, to participate in the United Front (UF) government, making it the first Communist Party to ever take part in government at the Centre.

After intensely debating over the issue, the National Council of the CPI overwhelmingly voted in favour of taking part in the Deve Gowda government.

While deciding to join the government, the CPI made it clear that it was not going to play the role of a 'docile' partner.

CPI has also made a plea to other Left parties to follow suit and play a major 'stabilising' role from within the UF government. With only 13 Lok Sabha MPs, CPI does not feel it can have much influence over the policies of the UF government, nor it can be a very cohesive force within the government, unless other Left parties also join.

"We have made the beginning. We want other Left parties to do the same," said a senior CPI leader.

ESSAY

Limits of Liberty

"They that give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

Benjamin Franklin

The right to liberty, though fundamental to human nature, is neither absolute in exercise nor is it an act of charity by the ruler of the day. It is inherent in the complexion of any civilised society. Wherever discrimination in the grant of personal liberty has been shown on any pretext, the result has been a conflict and crisis of confidence. Since liberty is an assurance to feel and act free on its violation is the negation of human dignity. No liberty in a civilised society is as absolute as to become a licence, which in turn may change into anarchy or the rule of jungle. Gone are the days when the cult 'might is right' held sway in the lives of some individuals, communities or even nation-States. The liberty to do anything and everything without observing the legitimate limits that are incumbent upon all types of liberty, is an invitation to self-destruction, as has been the fate of many a despot or desperado in the past. In fact, liberty tastes sweet and sonorous only when it is bound with certain reasonable limits.

If some fellow takes into his head that he has all the liberty to walk in the middle of a busy road or play his stereo-system at full volume at mid-night, he has to be told in no uncertain term that his unbridled liberty to act as he likes ends where the liberty of road users and night sleepers begins. The freedom of action of any 'liberty-intoxicated' person has to be curtailed if we mean business in our day to day dealings and social relations. When a majority of us refuse to interfere with the liberty of others and voluntarily submit to a curtailment of our private liberty,

we do so to enjoy a social order which makes our liberty a reality.

Liberty is not a personal affair only, but a social contract. It is an accommodation of interest. In matters which do not touch anybody else's liberty, of course, a person may be as free as he likes. In respect of eating, dressing, professing a faith, following a religion or no religion at all, a person enjoys almost full freedom. The question of putting legitimate limits to the exercise of liberty becomes inevitable when such liberty becomes a social nuisance or smacks of bullying tactics or feudal fads. Otherwise we have a whole kingdom in which we rule alone, can do what we choose, be wise or ridiculous, harsh or easy, conventional or odd. But, as we step out of that kingdom our personal liberty of action gets qualified by other people's liberty. As social animals, we have to accommodate our liberty to that of others.

In normal circumstances, people enjoy liberty to the best of their ability and acumen. Unless they encroach upon the freedom of others and meddle into their affairs, no outside authority comes into the picture to remind them to behave and be discreet. It is only when some person or persons become a threat to social harmony, the 'powers that be' become active and put a brake to such an arrogant use of liberty. In times of national crisis, civil war or aggression, the contours of liberty get controlled by the State so that the abnormal situation is successfully tackled. In a state of emergency, if the liberty of the people to move or speak freely is put under restraint, there is nothing unusual about it. The enjoyment of liberty is relevant only when the atmosphere or social order is free from tension or trauma.

There are three types of limits (re-

straints) that liberty has to obey before it becomes a vibrant virtue and blooming boon. Limits of liberty emanate from the self, the society and the State. As the saying goes, 'necessity is the mother of invention'. When individuals in groups began to move from the nomadic state to the organised one, the need to have some social control and cohesion among people, took the shape of a central authority. Gradually the nation-States took roots in the minds of people and thus was born the institution of government and its multiple subordinate agencies to put a curb on the adventurous and the law-breakers who were out to break all norms of decency and discipline in the name of their personal liberty. When we try to subject others to physical, mental or emotional harm, we do so in the belief that our liberty is not bound by any responsibility or restriction. This is both a fallacy as well as a folly. A reasonable consideration for the rights or feelings of others is the foundation of social conduct. The fact is that we can be neither complete anarchists nor complete socialists in this complex world—or rather we must be a judicious mixture of both. Under no circumstances should anyone have the liberty to be a nuisance to his neighbours or fellow travellers when he is in a train or a bus, or make his kith and kin a burden and a danger to the society at large in the name of personal liberty. It is only in small matters of conduct, in the observance of rules and regulations, that we pass judgement upon ourselves, and declare that we are civilised or uncivilised. "The great moments of heroism and sacrifice are rare. It is the little habits of common place intercourse that make up the great sum of life and sweeten or make bitter the journey." (A.G. Gardiner)

SPECIAL FEATURE

Kashmir: The Road Ahead

Many described India's plans to hold elections in Kashmir as foolhardy. With terrorists determined to disrupt elections and interference from Pakistan growing, a low turnout and high violence was expected. Two bomb blasts, one in Rajasthan and another in New Delhi's crowded shopping area, seemed to confirm this. But apart from a few violent incidents, the first elections in the State in seven years were held in a largely peaceful manner. Moderate to heavy turnout was reported in Baramulla and Anantnag constituencies during the second phase of polling, belying forecasts that there would be low turnout.

But elections are just a step towards normalcy in the troubled State. Much still remains to be done. Despite the conducting of the polls, the people of Kashmir remain trapped in the crossfire between separatist groups and the administration. It will take much more than elections to lift the gloom that still hangs over the Valley.

THE elections in Kashmir and the large turnout of voters have raised the hope that the violence that has plagued the Kashmir Valley may finally come to an end. In turning out in larger numbers than expected, the people have demonstrated maturity and the realisation that a popular government is the only way that the designs of Pakistan can be defeated. The people of Kashmir have lived with terror for over seven years but the State has now emerged one-up on Punjab, which went through a similar exercise in 1991 and 1992 but with a significantly less poll percentage. The State has since staged a spectacular turnaround, raising the hope that a similar recovery may take place in Kashmir too. Punjab has shown that a democratic process can start the changes which lead to enduring peace.

There may be other similarities with Punjab. Kashmiris are now fed up of vio-

lence and desire peace; similar to the sentiment in Punjab after years of terrorism. The economy lies in ruins and the once prosperous tourist attraction is now host to large numbers of security personnel and roaming gangs. This may be partly why elections have been successful in the State, a cry of the people for a return to normalcy.

The parliamentary elections will pave the way for Assembly polls thus ending the army rule which has alienated the people. The Assembly polls would mark the return to normal politics. Even if there is a low turnout, the local government may be able to assert itself and crush militancy.

A History of Rigging

THE elections were on the whole conducted in a free and fair manner, which was not the case earlier. Kashmir has a history of rigging elections, which may have led to the current state of violence. The holding of elections this time thus holds the promise that the government can win back the confidence of the people.

In 1951, the first Assembly elections were held in Kashmir. The National Conference (NC) won 73 of the 75 seats uncontested. The elections in 1957 were the first after the adoption of the State's constitution. Sheikh Abdullah won 68 seats while the Opposition won the remaining 7 seats from Jammu region. This trend continued in 1962 when the NC won 70 seats.

The NC lost the elections for the first time in 1967 when the Congress won 61 seats. In each of the elections, nomination papers of a large number of Opposition candidates were rejected, sometimes on flimsy grounds. In 1972 the NC did not participate and Congress won again. But in 1977 and 1983, the NC won an absolute majority. In 1987, the NC-Congress won a majority. In

1980 and 1989, the NC won the elections uncontested. Elections could not be held in 1991 due to unprecedented insurgency.

The NC gradually became irrelevant. It failed to meet the challenges posed by terrorists. Terrorism in the State disrupted life forcing many people to flee and live as migrants elsewhere. This caused great hardship to the people.

An achievement

WHAT is remarkable is that the elections have been held defying every single attempt to derail them. In the past, plans for elections had to be shelved in the face of violence and disruptive activities. This time too, political parties said that the time was not proper for elections. There were also fears of terrorist strikes at the most crucial times that had led to earlier postponement of polls.

The burning of the Char-e-Sharief last year had successfully obstructed the political process. On March 24, 1996 there was a shootout between the police and militants at the Hazratbal shrine. Two policemen and eight militants were killed. Clearly, the militants did not want elections and wanted to disrupt them this time also. There was also the boycott of the elections by the All Party Huriyat Conference while the National Conference made its participation conditional—on a special autonomy package and restoration of the pre-1952 status. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) questioned the very purpose of holding elections in Kashmir. There were also the bomb attacks by Pakistan-aided terrorist groups. The pro-Pakistan Hizbul Mujahedin, one of the powerful groups in the Valley, threatened that it would not allow elections. There were fears of a backlash from such groups.

The holding of the elections in this scenario are no doubt an achievement. The elections saw huge deployment of security forces and other people to prevent any unforeseen event. About one lakh security personnel were sent to Kashmir. 15,000 employees were brought from Delhi and Chandigarh for poll duties. Doctors were flown in as the State's health department was on strike.

For the first time, ballot boxes were kept in New Delhi, Udhampur and Jammu to enable migrants to cast their votes. The migrants too want a return of normalcy and went to return to their homes. The violence in Kashmir had gone too long and disrupted too many lives. Postal ballots gave the people living elsewhere a chance to express their franchise. About one lakh migrants live elsewhere, having fled from their homes.

There were reports of coercive voting where the pro-government militants and security forces reportedly compelled people virtually at gun point to cast their votes. In some areas like Sopore, people said that they queued outside polling booths out of fear of the army. This could be counter-productive in the long run, but it is also possible that such accusations were made to avoid reprisals from militant groups who had threatened the people with dire consequences if they participated in the elections.

Newspapers too reported that the Indian army had threatened the people and they voted out of fear. While this may be true to some extent, it seems improbable that the army could be so effective in ensuring high voter turnout. As senior army officers put it, if they could actually ensure voter turnout, the elections could have been held much before. Clearly, people decided to vote themselves in a desire for return to normalcy and the allegations of army coercion may be inflated. Voter turnout in Kashmir was higher than in Gujarat and Rajasthan and it is doubtful that such a high turnout could be achieved by threats.

The Road Ahead

NOW that the poll has been conducted in a free and fair manner and the voter response has been substantive, Kashmir may finally be on its way to recovery. The large

turnout and the relative calm in Kashmir is a setback to separatist groups and to Pakistan.

However, elections are not an end in itself. It would be wrong to indulge in euphoria at the large voter turnout. The holding of elections in Kashmir is no doubt an achievement, but much still remains to be done. Pakistan may still pose a danger as it now faces the prospect of failure of all its efforts in Kashmir. It makes no bones about its position on Kashmir. It raises the issue in all international meets and continues its interference in the State.

The State, in fact, faces a greater threat now that the country has political instability at the Centre. The prospect of a weak coalition government at the Centre might raise Pakistan's hopes and it may try yet to give peace in Kashmir a setback. In the past, Pakistan has tried to take advantage of instability in India. In 1964, after the death of Nehru, Pakistan perceived that India was weak and tried to wrest Kashmir. In 1990, when the country had the dithering government of V.P. Singh, Rubaiya Sayeed daughter of Union Minister Mufti Mohd Sayeed was kidnapped. How the coalition government of the United Front deals with Kashmir will be crucial.

The country must also realise that at the heart of the movement in Kashmir are socio-economic causes. Coupled with political manipulations and large scale rigging of elections in the past, this led to alienation of the people. Efforts must be made to correct these distortions. Apart from peace, what Kashmiris want is an efficient and responsive administration. Elections alone will not solve the problem.

Elections, nevertheless, are a setback to the plans of the militants. Their hope that no local party would contest the poll has been dashed. There are six constituencies in the State, one each in Ladakh, Jammu and Udhampur and the balance three constituencies in the Valley, consisting of Srinagar, Baramulla and Anantnag.

More than 110 candidates were in the fray. Also in the fray was the Awami League, a new party created by an ex-militant, Kukka Parray. Though he has succeeded in chasing out militants with the help of the armed forces, people complain about the methods of the group in threat-

ening and intimidating them. Kukka Parray, however, may yet have support from the local people who are tired of violence in the Valley.

The boycott by the National Conference was no doubt a setback, but this did not prevent others from participating. There was an increase in the number of candidates in all the constituencies, showing that the fear of militants had subsided to a very great extent. Three anti-insurgency groups joined the fray, the leading one being Awami League. The BJP fielded candidates for all the six constituencies.

The Huriyat Conference hoped that a low turnout would justify their stand that the elections were a farce. But this did not happen. Even the NC stands to be sidelined since the heavy voter turnout went against their calculations.

Successful holding of Parliamentary elections in Jammu & Kashmir has opened the gates for holding of the State elections too. However, the point to be noted is that mere elections are not going to solve the Kashmir problem. Elections are just the first few steps towards peace. Much will depend on how the government works to heal the wounds of the people; correct steps to reduce genuine grievances are as important. There are yet no signs of the alienation of the people diminishing.

The most urgent need is to develop the infrastructure of the State machinery which is in complete shambles. Then there has developed a nexus between the militants and a section of bureaucracy. This nexus needs to be broken immediately. Institutional neglect and decay needs to be checked.

There are also the gnawing problems of unemployment. The education system has also gone for a six.

That the government was able to hold elections; that more than 50 per cent people participated, shows the growing alienation of the militants and their masters in Pakistan. The people are fed-up and want peace back. There definitely exists an opportunity to bring peace in Kashmir; all it requires now is sincere handling of State affairs. All the right-minded political parties are required to rise above petty politics if best is to be made of the opportunity on hand.

SPECIAL FEATURE

Emerging China

China continues to be an enigma. The country is the most populated and is run by communists, but has managed to be the world's fastest growing economy. It makes no bones about being an occupying force, like in Tibet, and about showing its teeth to Taiwan should it decide to vote for independence. The country is also not apologetic about its blemished human rights record where demonstrations are put down firmly and children killed by lethal injection in pursuit of its one-child policy.

The West does not know how to react to this emerging superpower. It sees China as a destabilising force, with expansionist ambitions on one hand and its refusal to follow international rules with regard to trade, intellectual property rights and nuclear non-proliferation on the other. The West makes noises about human rights but can not afford to lose the trading opportunities thrown up by the largest untapped market in the world. China uses its position with strength, telling the rest of the world not to interfere in its internal affairs. In fact, China is the only country that can deal with the Western world while other nations often buckle down under pressure.

This feature explores the enigma that is China. It puts together economic, social and political information about the country.

EVERY fourth person in the world is Chinese. But China has not let a huge population, nor its political ideology of communism, stand in the way of economic growth. It has adopted harsh measures to contain its population and at the same time has opened just enough of its economy to get in foreign capital. With the result, it has had the world's fastest growing economy in the past 15 years. With countries like Japan floundering in recession and US depending heavily on trade, is China emerging as the next superpower?

Indeed, the huge and increasingly pros-

perous country is starting to throw its weight around. In a manner bordering on arrogance, it tells the world not to interfere in its internal affairs, a point which has consistently become a source of tension in international meets. The tension is not only in how it treats its own people but also its attitude towards neighbouring countries. The world saw its strident actions over Taiwan where it fired missiles to scare the country into not seeking independence. In Tibet, the Panchen Lama-designate vanished and China selected its own. It has border disputes with many ASEAN countries and also one with India. Yet, China says it is not an expansionist power, a claim which the world finds hard to digest.

There are other reasons why China is regarded with suspicion. It has consistently helped Pakistan in its nuclear programme, disregarding international protests. There are disputes about intellectual property rights as it disregards international law relating to copying of software and music. The US threatened to withdraw the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status because of illegal copying of Western software and CDs by Chinese factories, causing loss to American companies to the tune of \$2.3 billion. But, President Clinton backed out at the last moment, fearing a full-scale trade war.

The emergence of the superpower is unmistakable. In the post cold war era, China is the only power that can match American belligerence. It has become a sort of a balancing influence in a world that was fast becoming unipolar. China can more effectively counter US power if it can create allies of its own. However, its belligerence stands in the way of getting the support of other nations. If the Asian countries begin to see it as a threat rather than

an ally, they might ask the US to maintain its military bases in the region, as it has been doing in the past. China has, however, avoided such a situation till now.

ASEAN countries—Malaysia, Brunei and Philippines—have disputes with China over the Spratly islands in the South China sea. Vietnam also has a dispute over all the Spratlys. Indonesia is worried by maps that show China wanting to take over the gas-rich waters near the Natuna islands.

But, ASEAN countries do not see China as an enemy. ASEAN members go out of their way to be nice to their arrogant neighbour. In July last year, Thailand completed 20 years of diplomatic relations with China. The Indonesian Foreign Minister visited China about the same time and said that he was reassured about its intentions. ASEAN did put up a united front on the Philippines claim of an island where China had built some structures; but the response from China was abrasive.

China knows it must be careful with its Asian neighbours and it is not as hostile with them as it is with the US. To counter the superpower's influence, it courts European nations and awards business contracts where America leaves off. France has signed \$ 2 billion worth of contracts and Britain too is making such efforts. In the mixture of trade and politics, China realises that access to its market is a political gift which all developed nations are after. So if the US raises uncomfortable questions, China will simply move to other countries.

China exploits the differences between countries and moves from strength to strength. It hopes to enter the next century as a superpower commanding more clout and respect. Countries like India will be

marginalised, more so because they have no coherent policy to deal with China. India, for instance, has no real policy of containing China in its efforts to support Pakistan's efforts in building the nuclear bomb.

EVEN though the world may see it as a destabilising force, a firm signal has not been sent to China. In the post cold war era, the signals emanating from the US and other countries are that economics is all that matters. As long as China opens its economy and allows foreign investment, it appears that the world is content to make mandatory protests only. China not only understands this but uses the fact to its advantage. The country has successfully fought off threats of trade sanctions in the past. On many occasions, the West has backed off pressing demands of human rights because it desperately needs China as an economic ally. Perhaps no other country uses politics for economic interests as effectively as China.

The reasoning followed by the West is that economic growth and liberalisation will make it easier to live with China; it might even begin to change itself as it opens up. This line of reasoning assumes that China may become open as it achieves prosperity, which has happened in many Asian countries. In other countries, prosperity and economic freedom has resulted in political freedom as in Thailand, Taiwan and South Korea. Countries that are economically closed and backward have remained repressive, like North Korea, Myanmar and Vietnam.

At present, the theory does not seem to be working. A prosperous China appears to have become more arrogant and threatening, as was seen from its recent actions in the Taiwan Strait. The US State Department points out in a report that trade and prosperity will not bring about greater respect for human rights unless the political leadership agrees to abide by fundamental international norms.

NOR is a liberal China necessarily a humane one. Its law remains arbitrary and severe, where people can be jailed for "counter-revolutionary offences". The police have sweeping powers to hold people

without charge. There are 68 crimes punishable by death; people have been killed for hooliganism and stealing cows. Official records mention 2,000 executions in 1994, which is three times more than the figure of the rest of the world. There may be pressure for change from within the country and there are reports that the legal system might be reformed, giving a faint glimmer of hope that China too may be reforming.

The West continues to be appalled at the reports coming out of China about how citizens are treated there. A doctor who has defected to the West says that new born infants are given a lethal injection in Chinese hospitals as the country follows a relentless one-child policy. Recently, another report mentioned that orphanages in China chain the children to their beds and some of them are simply left to starve to death so that orphanages are not crowded. The Cultural Revolution of the 1960s, started by Mao Zedong, saw hordes of young people going all over China leading to a decade of killing and chaos. That episode is blanked out from China and people are forbidden to even talk about it.

China says that what it does to its people is its internal matter. The West however says that China is a signatory of the UN Declaration on human rights and of conventions against the use of torture, and so it is under an obligation to observe international norms.

With the result, while the Western world keeps up its demands for respect for human rights in China, the country is brazen about it. Mrs Clinton used the Beijing Women's conference to speak about human rights; in a thinly disguised statement, China told her to mind her own business. Nevertheless, there have been some successes too, as in the case for American born activist Harry Wu, who was released by China after Western protests. But there is no knowing how many other activists have been jailed or even tortured and murdered.

MANY Chinese suspect that the real aim of the West when it raises such issues is to try and break up China, like the Soviet Union. There are indeed

internal feuds between provinces which are never reported in the press. Not much is therefore known but a country as large as China is bound to have regions with distinct interests and identities. However, the fear that they could one day break away seems to be small.

Still, there are still fears that some far-flung provinces may one day break away from the centre. An American study mentioned that the chances of a break-up are as high as 50%. There may be currents of dissatisfaction in non-Chinese areas that have been annexed, such as Tibet, Inner Mongolia and Xinjiang. China makes sure that local leaders and senior officers are frequently rotated to prevent local affiliations to develop.

China will of course suppress any provincial attempts to develop separate identities. Any hopes that the West may have that China will break up is far fetched. The world faces a dilemma about how to deal with a superpower that refuses to be typecast. At present it is hoping that economic engagement might result in China respecting international conventions.

Will the strategy work? While America threatens but stops short of taking action, China clearly is able to use all nations in a unique tightrope diplomacy. The only way that China can be controlled is if the world unites. The invasion of Taiwan was avoided since China was left in no doubt that its action would wreck relations with capitalist Asia and the West. At present, however, it seems unlikely that the world can put up a united front as countries scramble for the Chinese market.

At the same time, China is making attempts to get areas under its control. Hong Kong and Macao are to revert to China, while the merger with Taiwan is seen by it as its natural right. However, it shrewdly recognises that unification will come about only when China acquires the power and influence to prevent other countries from obstructing its right. There is, thus, no doubt that China has become a power to reckon with. In the world's geopolitical arena, it is fast emerging as a power this side of the globe.

ARTICLE

India's External Debt: A Cause for Concern

External debt, as a means to finance economic growth, is a recognised method for raising foreign exchange. Many developing countries like South Korea, China, Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia have had higher levels of external debt during the recent past, but due to good management of the debt on the one hand and proper utilisation of the borrowed funds for economic development on the other, these countries have not only been able to achieve good rates of economic growth during the recent years, but have also kept the quantum of the foreign debt within manageable limits. India is also a highly indebted country and during the past over four years she has been able to manage the external debt reasonably well. However, the apprehensions about India falling into a debt trap are expressed by many.

High Debt

IN absolute terms, India's external debt has remained quite high among the developing countries. India's total debt liability was US \$ 75.9 billion in 1990 which rose sharply to \$ 85.3 billion in 1991 and to US \$ 92.7 billion in 1994. During 1995, there was again a sudden jump and India's external debt touched a new high of \$ 99.05 billion. As per the World Debt Tables-1996, upto the year 1993, India was the third largest indebted country in absolute terms with US \$ 92.7 billion debt, after Brazil with US \$ 132.75 billion and Mexico with \$ 118.03 billion. But, during 1994, China overtook India in absolute terms and India came down to the position of sixth largest indebted country of the world. As per the latest estimates given in the Economic Survey 1995-96,

total external debt declined in absolute terms to US \$ 93.84 billion by end of September 1995.

Debt service payments in India have also been high. In 1989-90 total debt service payments were to the tune of US \$ 7.42 billion which rose sharply to US \$ 8.98 billion in 1990-91. After declining marginally for a couple of years, the debt service again rose to US \$ 10.5 billion in 1994-95. The total debt service, as per cent of current receipts, rose from 30.9 to 35.25 per cent. This percentage, however, has been declining, notwithstanding the rise in external debt in absolute terms. The debt service ratio was 26.65 per cent of the current receipts during 1994-95 and during the year 1995-96 this ratio is expected to decline further. But a level of 20 per cent or more is quite high.

India's debt service payments as percentage of exports of goods and services was 25.1 per cent during 1993-94. This ratio is quite high from international standards, particularly when in India, the exports are less than 10 per cent of the total GDP. Coupled with the current receipts as ratio to the GDP, exports as percentage of GDP are the two indicators which determine the capacity of any nation to repay its external debt. With current receipts also about 14 per cent of the GDP in 1994-95, India's potential capacity to repay its debt and withstand external "shocks" is quite low. Hence, there is a need to have sustained growth of exports over 20 per cent for over several years, on the one hand, and enhance the share of current receipts as percentage of the GDP on the other. These measures could increase country's resistance to a possible debt trap.

Positive Aspects

DURING the recent years certain positive aspects have brightened up Indian prospects. Reasonably good management of external debt has resulted in reducing the adverse effects of unmindful borrowing and their chaotic management during the previous decade. During the six-month period between April-September 1995, India's external debt in absolute terms declined by US \$ 5.20 billion, to US \$ 93.84 billion. However, one should not try to read too much in this reduction, as a reduction of US \$ 3.47 billion was only due to exchange rate variation and the real decrease has been to the tune of US \$ 1.77 billion only. In addition, the volume of external debt as percentage of the GDP is on the decline. The total external debt as a per cent of GDP at current market prices declined from the peak of 41 per cent to 33 per cent in 1994-95 and further to 29.4 per cent in September 1995. This shows that in relative terms India's external debt is declining, though in absolute terms it might have increased.

One encouraging feature of India's external debt is that a large part of it has high degree of concessionality. There is an element of grant to the tune of 25 per cent. A major portion of India's debt flows from International Development Agency (IDA), a soft loan window of the World Bank, and the IMF. Of the total debt, the concessional debt was 44.35 per cent by end of March 1994 and increased to 45.28 by end of March, 1995. When compared to highly indebted countries of the world, India is very comfortably placed in this respect. Even China and South Korea have relatively lower concessional debts.

Yet another positive aspect is that the growth of India's external debt has decelerated in dollar terms during the past four years. From 10 per cent growth during 1990-91, the debt grew only by 2.9 per cent during 1993-94. This growth rate further declined to 0.9 per cent during 1994-95. The average annual growth of debt between March 31, 1991 to September 30, 1995 has been just US \$ 2.2 billion.

A country has lesser chances of getting into a debt trap—a situation where additional borrowings are required to repay the previous debt—if most of its debt is long-term in nature and repayments spaced over a fairly longer period of time. Judging by this standard also, there is nothing very alarming for India. At present India's foreign debt contains an element of 96 per cent of long-term debt. A large part of the rise in the external debt during 1994-95 was due to increase in long-term debt which rose from US \$ 89.07 billion to US \$ 94.78 in March 1995. During the year 1990-91, the short-term debt was at its peak, with 10.2 per cent of the total debt, which is now at a manageable 4 per cent and is expected to decline further.

Even when compared to the other developing countries of the world, India is relatively better placed. India's debt is less than 30 per cent of the GDP at present. This ratio is much higher in countries like Indonesia, Philippines, Mexico, Malaysia, Thailand and Turkey. All South Asian countries taken together have GDP to debt ratio of 43 per cent, while among severely indebted middle income countries, taken together, this ratio is around 42 per cent. For severely indebted low income countries taken together, external debt is as high as 117 per cent, which means the volume of external debt is more than the GDP of the countries. Even when all the developing countries are taken together, external debt as percentage of the GDP is around 40 per cent. This means that India's external debt volume is quite low when compared to the average of developing countries. Even total debt service as percentage of exports of goods and services is favourable for India.

Avoiding the Trap

A pertinent question often asked is whether India is on her way to a Latin American type of debt-trap. About four years ago, when the volume of debt was high, growth rate of economy low and export growth rate almost stagnant, the reply to this question could have been in affirmative. But, the remarkable improvement by India, on almost all fronts in the field of external debt management, has almost dispelled all such fears. India's capacity to service its debt has also expanded over these years.

India's foreign exchange reserve position has also improved considerably. From an extremely low level of US \$ 3.96 billion at the end of 1989-90, the forex reserves improved to a comfortable level of US \$ 19.25 billion at the end of 1992-93 and touched a historic peak of US \$ 25.19 billion at the end of 1994-95. By end of January, 1996, the reserves were at a comfortable US \$ 20.89 billion. This comfortable position of forex reserves enabled the Government to pre-pay some of the external debt during 1995-96. In addition, the foreign investment flows have also increased which has resulted in meeting the demand for forex without borrowing from International Lending Institutions: India is estimated to have attracted US \$ 1.31 billion worth of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) during 1994-95, in addition to US \$ 0.62 billion FDI during 1993-94.

Another important factor is the export growth rate. Any country depending heavily on the external borrowing has to ensure that its export growth rate is high and debt service to export ratio is kept low. Upto a few years ago, Indian performance depicted a dismal picture with debt service commitments increasing and export growth rate remaining very low. However, during the past over three years now, the rate of growth of exports has been very good and remained around 20 per cent.

Conclusion

At present, India has two serious problems in handling of the external debt.

Firstly, the debt service payment, although declining, is still quite high. If India is to avoid any serious problem on this front, this ratio should be immediately brought down to the level of 10 to 15 per cent of exports. The second problem is low level of exports. Although the growth rate of exports in India has been rising well during the last about three years, yet, in absolute terms, India's exports are very low. Considering the size of the economy and volume of the GDP, exports need to be significantly stepped up to ensure that India has sufficient foreign-exchange to repay its debt on time. If the present trend of increase in exports by about 20 per cent in dollar terms continues for the next about a decade, Indian exports would reach at a reasonably good level—in international comparison.

During the last about four years, India has done well to avoid falling into a debt trap and has consolidated her position. But, there is no reason to be complacent and several more steps are required to be taken. Present levels of FDI may be higher when compared to the FDI to India during previous few years, however, the total FDI to India during 1995 is just about 2 per cent of US \$ 90 billion of FDI which went to all the developing countries. China alone received US \$ 38 billion worth of FDI during the year and that is the level a country should be proud of. Another precaution which needs to be taken is high fiscal deficit. This was as high as 8.3 per cent of the GDP in 1990-91 and was brought down to below 6 per cent during the next two years. Fiscal deficit further rose to a high of 7.5 per cent during 1993-94. Even during 1995-96, as against the budgeted 5.5 per cent, the fiscal deficit was estimated to be as high as 5.9 per cent of the GDP. Unless the fiscal deficit is contained to a level of less than 5 per cent, it may continue to put pressure on the external debt and debt servicing. It is, therefore, time to consolidate, rather than letting the initial gains in managing the external debt slip away. Rapid economic growth rate and well managed external debt go side by side.

THIS MONTH YESTERDAY

July: Before and After Independence

Before Independence

The long array of events which happened in the month of July, include 'opening of Madurai Meenakshi temple to Harijans' on July 10, 1939, 'approval of the design of Indian Flag' by the Constituent Assembly of India on July 22, 1947. In this section starting with Subhas Chandra Bose's 'March to Delhi', we shall focus on the developments in 'Indian Broadcasting' and 'Partitions'.

March to Delhi

After reaching Singapore on July 2, 1943, on July 5 Subhas Chandra Bose reviewed the Indian National Army's parade and gave the historic call for 'March on the Red Fort'. In his address he said, "... let your battle cry be to Delhi, ... to Delhi. How many of us will individually survive this war of freedom, I do not know. But I do know that we would ultimately win ...".

Broadcasting

Indian Broadcasting registered some historic developments during the months of July. For instance, the Madras Presidency Radio Club, which was formed in May 1924, began its regular daily programmes on July 31, 1924. Later on July 23, 1927, with the opening of Bombay station of Indian Broadcasting Company, organised broadcasting took a start in India. It was inaugurated by Lord Irwin, the Viceroy of India, with the words, "India offers special opportunities for development of broadcasting. Its distances and wide spaces alone make it a promising field."

Partitions

In the history of 'Indian July' twice the issue of Partition surfaced. The first instance pertains to the partition of Bengal. Responding to resentments from various quarters, a revised partition

scheme was devised and finally on July 19, 1905 Lord Curzon announced the scheme of partition by a Government Resolution.

Later, the partition of India took a final shape on July 18, 1947 when British Parliament passed an Act to set up dominions of India and Pakistan. Incidentally the same day Lady and Lord Mountbatten celebrated the Silver Jubilee of their wedding.

After Independence

In this section, we shall focus on some 'new ventures' which were launched in July, 'political turmoils' of July and two 'treaties' which India signed in July

New Ventures

July, particularly the 1st of July, has been marked by the launching of new ventures. For instance on July 1, 1955 the State Bank of India came into being. A year after on the same day, the Registrar of Newspapers for India was established. Later on July 1, 1964 while the Unit Trust of India (UTI) commenced its operation, the Industrial Development Bank of India was established as a wholly-owned subsidiary of RBI.

July has also seen launching of some popularistics programmes. On July 1, 1975 Mrs Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister, announced her 20-point programme. And on the same day in 1982 M.G. Ramachandran inaugurated Tamil Nadu noon-meal programme for poor children. Incidentally it was on July 4, 1977 that M.G. Ramachandran became the first film star to assume the office of the Chief Minister.

Political Turmoils

The post independent history of India has witnessed a number of political turmoils in July. The nationalisation of

14 Banks took place on July 19, 1969.

On July 16, 1969 Prime Minister Indira Gandhi took Finance Portfolio from Morarji Desai and Morarji Desai resigned. Incidentally Morarji Desai also resigned as the Prime Minister of India on July 15, 1979 when a revolt launched by his Cabinet reached its climax. Subsequently on July 28, 1979 Charan Singh was sworn in as the 5th Prime Minister of India.

Another political turmoil erupted in July 1987. Within a span of four days a number of prominent members of Indian National Congress were expelled from the party by its President Rajiv Gandhi. The expulsion included that of Arun Nehru, V.C. Shukla and Arif Mohammad Khan. While on July 16, 1987 V.P. Singh, former Defence Minister, telegraphically sent his resignation from the Congress Party and the Rajya Sabha, on July 19 he was expelled from the Congress. Amitabh Bachchan's resignation from the Lok Sabha also came on July 17, 1987. On the top of all the ensuing alleged JMM bribery case has its root in the 'no-confidence motion' of July, 1993.

Treaties

After independence two important Pacts were signed by India. First was Shimla Pact. It was signed on July 2, 1972 by Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi and President Z.A. Bhutto. It resolved the issue of POWs and stressed on bilaterally solving common problems. July's second Pact was the 'Colombo Pact'. On July 29, 1987 Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and President Jayawardene signed an agreement to settle ethnic crises and accordingly IPKF was sent to Sri Lanka. Next day at Colombo, a Sri Lankan Navy man attempted an assault on the Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi while he was inspecting a Guard of Honour.

DEBATE; DISCUSSION

Does Modernising Mean Losing Values and Heritage?

Forces of modernism are sweeping the country. In all fields, new thinking is taking root. Even our society is perceptibly changing. Increasingly, people are accepting Western mannerisms and values.

The change is painful to a lot of people. They believe that modernism is making us lose our values and traditions. Older people think that the young no longer seem to have respect for elders or accepted norms. Their brash style is embodied in the statement, "We are like this only!"

Perhaps, most disturbing has been the change in attitudes to sex, smoking and consuming liquor. Being modern has come to mean doing all these things. But at the same time, modernism also means freedom from many harmful traditions which are best forgotten. Clearly, there are many arguments to the question. In this issue, we debate what modernism means. Does it mean giving up our values and our heritage?

Mr A This is an interesting topic which I am sure is on the minds of most people. Our society is witnessing sweeping changes, the attitudes are also changing. We seem to be following Western ideals in many things. Today, we do not even dress in our traditional way but follow the 'fashion designers' who give us clothes which may be all right for the West but are impractical in our country. Our music is Westernised. Our language and our mannerisms are increasingly becoming Western. We are supposed to drink liquor and be sexually free if we want to show ourselves as modern. If we do not do any of these things, we are not modern and are fit to be merely villagers. It appears that to show ourselves as modern, we must become some sort of Westernised nuts. I think this is sad. We have a rich culture,

yet all we do is mindlessly follow an alien culture. It thus appears to me that modernisation means losing our traditions and our values.

Mr B I agree with you that our society is undergoing a tremendous change. A number of influences have come in with liberalisation. The culture of the West appeals to a lot of young people since it is based on the principle of personal freedom. Whereas in the West this freedom resulted in young people becoming economically independent, thereby fuelling economic growth, what we are imitating are the outside trappings of freedom. Nobody wants limitations on how you dress, talk or behave. There is no harm in being modern, but what we are witnessing today is that we are taking the negative aspects of the Western culture without its positive aspects. At the same time, we are forgetting our own values, which have suddenly become unfashionable.

Mr C Let us first define the values which we say are Indian and are supposedly being discarded. What are those values? Youth have never been given the authority to do anything, leave alone starting businesses ventures like one started by Bill Gates. Our society has held the individual back for too long. Now, if they take up values of the West and try to "break free" what is the harm? What is so sacred about wearing a saree or a dhoti when it is inconvenient to wear these things in day-to-day life? In the rushed life of today when we have to run and catch buses and so on, wearing jeans is much more convenient. It is not merely the desire to be modern.

To say that we should wear our traditional dresses just for the sake of keeping up our tradition would be foolish. Similarly, I do not see what is wrong in speaking English, though it is a foreign language. English is the language of modern technology and communication. If we use any other language, we will cut-off ourselves. Therefore, I find it wrong that you criticise our imitating modern clothes and speech. It is not merely imitating, it is taking the best of both the worlds for no other reason than our own convenience.

Mr D But Mr A had a point about imitating the West in respect of sexual behaviour and consuming liquor. Surely you cannot defend that? Today, we have Western style parties where young people, including girls, show that they have no hang-ups. I take your points that wearing a jean is very convenient and even English is the language which connects us to the rest of the world. But how can you defend these things? Society is opening up and many of the influences are indeed very harmful. We can well do without these things as they are not part of our heritage.

Mr E That is an argument that I have heard often. What is it about sex and liquor that worries us? Remember, India had one of the most open societies in the world, as can be seen from our ancient texts. Prudery was imposed upon us by the British. It is ironical that though Britain has been able to shake off its prudery, we are left with the colonial baggage and continue to defend to this day our suppressive society. Perhaps you are scared that young people will be

corrupted by these things. There are two aspects to this. First, our people are only now coming out of their self-imposed prudery and it is natural that they might overdo something. We too find it shocking. But this will decrease in the future, as has happened in the West. Second, young people always have done what they liked. Now things are simply coming out in the open. I think we should be happy that youth can be free with their parents and confide in them rather than do things hidden from them. We should not worry too much about outside influences. Moreover, there are other things in our tradition that are best discarded. For instance, there is the blind faith of people in *sadhus* and godmen. Many of them are charlatans and do not deserve the respect we give them. Then there is dowry and the related problems of bride-burning and female infanticide. Are they the values we should be proud of? The sooner we get rid of such traditions the better is it for all of us.

Mr C That is a very forceful argument indeed and I fully agree with it. There is no point worrying too much about the loss of certain negative aspects of our own traditions. It is not as if our culture is better than others. In fact, certain aspects of it have made us underachievers and backward looking. While other countries advanced, we remained stuck in our "Hindu rate of growth". I also agree that we should not worry about outside influences too much. Indian society has the ability of assimilating the best of each of the cultures that came here. Many invaders came, but Indian society and its traditional values were able to take the best out of them. I have no doubt that the same will happen even now. Our society will take the best elements from the West but its good traditions and values will remain untouched.

Mr A I do not agree with your view at all. What happened in the past was that invaders brought their customs

which were limited to certain geographical areas. Thus, society as a whole was never influenced. What is happening now is an invasion of values as never before. We no longer celebrate Indian festivals like Baisakhi and Holi as we used to. But look at Valentine's day and New Year's Eve! I fear that slowly we are forgetting our own traditions and imitating Western traditions without even understanding what they are and what they stand for. What is alarming is that we have begun to mistake Western values as fashionable and Indian values as unfashionable. In an effort to keep up, we are forgetting our own roots. Gandhian values of austerity and non-violence have become unfashionable, in favour of violence, revenge and materialism. We do not even value honesty and basic human virtues. I am afraid that we are heading towards anarchy, with little to guide us in personal and professional matters. It is no wonder that corruption in public life has increased like never before.

Mr B There is a point in what you say. Have you seen how some of our young people speak Hindi and other languages? It is one thing to defend English but the genteel way of speaking local languages is truly bugging. But it is fashionable to speak like that. Let me also point out that forgetting everything that we have cherished is not a good idea. Even in Europe some countries jealously guard their traditions from the onslaught of American culture. In France and Germany, they do not argue in favour of English the way we do. In fact, they are proud of their language. But in India we have begun to speak Hindi like English! We go to ridiculous lengths to appear modern. It is good to be modern but it certainly should not mean sacrificing our values and heritage.

Mr C Frankly, I think the argument is misleading. Suppose we say that we should not sacrifice our heritage, can we really stop the trend? The fact is that we

cannot. Technology makes sure that outside influences are bound to come in; trying to stop them is foolish. In France and Germany there is a national pride in values. Here we don't have that pride. In fact, self-criticism is a national hobby. If we do not have pride in our traditions and values, who is going to protect them? In all fields of life we have taken up the British system and we have also ensured that the ruling class is Westernised. How can we then stop the masses from trying to copy them? It is no wonder that people want to send their children to English medium schools. Once we do that, how can you stop youngsters celebrating Western festivals? We cannot say that we must speak and behave like Englishmen but remain Indians at heart. It is quite an impossible thing to do. I would say that we should not worry too much and let matters take their own course. If people realise themselves that they are doing wrong by discarding Indian values, there is hope that they will survive. But if people do not have pride, then the values are best discarded, the sooner the better.

Mr E The discussion has thrown some very interesting points and some heated debate. It is good to be modern, but I would say that we should maintain our own values. The danger is that we may forget them. No doubt, India has a way of assimilating outside influences. Perhaps we can assimilate some good things from the West's cultural invasion. At the same time, there are certain traditions that are best discarded. Indian society would do well to get rid of things that take us backward. But what is required is that people develop a respect for our customs. That can only be developed over a long period of time, and there is need to modify our education system so that the sense of pride is inculcated. Otherwise, perhaps there is no way that we can stop our people from forgetting our basic values and heritage.

PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT

Practical Ways to Self-Confidence

THERE are two basic causes for lack of self-confidence. The first basic cause is an arrest in emotional development.

Freud, in explaining how emotional development takes place from infancy, suggests that the growth of personality is something like an army invading a country.

At each point of conquest, the invading army leaves an occupational force behind to deal with any subversive elements. If the conquered country is peaceful, only a small token force is left behind. But if there are dangers of insurrection or revolution, a much larger force is retained at the point of resistance, to keep order.

Indeed, in crisis, it may be necessary for the whole of the attacking army to withdraw, or remain, to save it from complete rout and annihilation.

If in early childhood one meets with fights, terrors, threats to his existence, serious rebuffs to his honour and prestige, and if these threats are not satisfactorily disposed of, the main forces of the advancing personality have to turn back so that these appalling threats may be kept at bay.

The result is that though the child may have the appearance of developing into a strong and robust adult, in actual fact his emotional development may have been seriously arrested or "turned back", so that, instead of being able to react to difficulties as an adult person should, he is timid, afraid, childish, always playing for safety or getting into a panic, and completely lacking in self-assurance.

Inadequate

HERE is a man who is a very picture of health and manhood. But he has no confidence in himself at all. The thought of meeting another man in business, or even of answering a telephone call, gives him an attack of "the jitters", and he feels hopelessly incompetent to deal with the situation adequately.

He sees himself as a child of three years to age. He is mischievous and misbehaves. Suddenly, without realising what is happening, his quick-tempered father moves behind the child, and with one blow sends him sprawling to the corner of the room.

He sees himself as a child having fun with water. Unaware of his father's approach, he receives a tremendous kick from behind, and as he runs away screaming, his father runs after him.

Fear

INSTEAD of being able to develop his emotional life normally, this boy was given the impression that something round the corner is going to pounce on him.

Life is not safe for him, and in the deep reaches of his mind, he begins to organise his life so that he can defend himself against these inevitable blows.

But wherever he goes, he takes the dread-of-his-father feeling as part of himself, and even when things are going to his liking, he is aware of an appalling and irrational fear, as if waiting for the inevitable blow from behind!

He projects on to them the feelings he had for his father, and expects from them the same sort of treatment. So everywhere he goes, he walks in dread, expecting a doom.

If you are lacking in self-confidence, look into your own early experience. Set about this inquiry with the seriousness it deserves. Some morning before you jump out of bed relax completely, and allow this feeling of "lack of assurance" or hopelessness to envelop you. Encourage it. Let it "consume" you.

Vital questions

IF then, you are lacking in self-confidence, perhaps a good start would be to ask, "Have I a definite goal or purpose in life; what are my aims?" No journey was ever even started by a person who had no idea where he wanted to go. Where do you want to get? Are you out for money, for culture, for pleasure, for service? You want to be a success? Everybody does. But what form shall that success take?

Choose worth-while goals; have a constructive philosophy of life. Self-centred aims such as the pursuit of pleasure, power, prominence or wealth for their own sake, do not usually help your emotional stability; they are too much at the mercy of circumstances. The desire to do a good job, to serve, to meet and overcome obstacles and difficulties and to live up to great ideals are inner objectives bringing harmony and peace of mind.

It is recorded that a certain Roman pilot, caught in a terrible storm, cried out,

"O Neptune, you can save us if it pleases you or you can destroy us if you will; but no matter what you do, I will hold the tiller true." With such a philosophy a person is spiritually independent of changes of fortune and tends to be emotionally unshakable. No matter what happens his ideal remains the same; he will do his best in what he has to do.

You may have memories of things that have hurt you and made you draw back into your shell. Then, when an opportunity comes for you to shine, the memories of past failure rise up to defeat you once more.

Laugh them out

TAKE a good look at those past events that hurt you. Drag them into the light of day. Notice well that, because they are past, they have no power to hurt you today, unless you yourself give it to them by thinking fearfully about them. Blush with shame if you must—and then just laugh them right out of existence.

It is well worth-while to examine what seem to be small fears and superstitions; the "bogies" and ill luck that seem to dog so many people—the things that are uncomfortable to remember, that make you "blush in the night".

We all have vestiges of childhood in us. To face some fear boldly, bid it begone, and go ahead as if it had never existed, can be a real tonic.

Take stock of yourself, but after stock has been taken, mistakes and failures should be put right out of your life. Let the past go, look only to the future. Accept thyself. "Forget thyself", says Ladell.

Be objective. People who lack confidence usually think about everything and everybody only as they relate to themselves. Advises Emil Leterman, "Do concentrate on doing. Forget yourself in what you are doing. Then you will be so busy accomplishing something that you will not have the energy to worry about yourself. The surest of all ways of finding yourself is

to lose yourself in something bigger than yourself." Concentrate on what you are doing.

No crutches

DECIDE for yourself; don't depend on others. Get information if you need it, but make your own decisions. By making decisions we govern ourselves, we grow, we control our own lives.

The person who cannot make up his mind is a figure of fun, a nuisance, a hindrance. We all know the person who always asks advice. Shall he take his umbrella? He looks out of the front door, comes back for his umbrella, asks his wife's advice, and when she agrees it may rain, he hesitates, then leaves his umbrella behind; finally, he is annoyed because he gets wet.

Watch for the little things; decide them without reference to anyone else. In larger matters, seek only information from others; weigh up the pros and cons, but then decide for yourself and hold to your decisions.

You may make mistakes. Be willing to make them and to take the full consequences of your decisions. You may find that in a surprising number of cases, the bold, determined decision you have made yourself will produce the right results.

A big resolve affecting perhaps the whole course of your life, and made known to intimates, often serves as a challenge; it reinforces the decision, it puts you on your toes; you will not want to let either yourself or your friends down.

William James illustrates the importance of declaring big decisions from an advertisement he once saw in a newspaper. A certain man promised to give fifty golden coins reward to anyone who, after that date, should find him in the wineshop of So-and-so. "This I do", announced the advertiser, "in consequence of a promise I have made to my wife."

Such publicity may seldom be called for, but some public profession is a great help. Some people find it helpful to put a card with

the decision printed on it in block capitals, kept constantly where it can be seen.

Put it on your desk, paste it on your mirror, write it at the head of each day's entry in your diary. Harry Truman, when he was President of the United States, always had a card on his desk which read, "Buck-passing stops here."

Suggestions

Give yourself a positive suggestion you can overcome the negation of a personality lacking confidence.

Take a session at the beginning of the day, or at any convenient time when you can quietly concentrate on the task. Think about what you would like to do and be; then relax.

Says Emile Coue, "If you can persuade yourself that you can do a certain thing, provided this thing be possible you will do it, however difficult it may be. If, on the contrary, you imagine that you cannot do the simplest thing in the world, it is impossible for you to do it, and molehills become for you unscalable mountains."

Positive auto-suggestion is a most valuable tool. It often produces immediate and almost miraculous results. It requires a certain persistence, however, but, adopted as a rule of life and persevered in, it can be the greatest ally in helping you to help yourself to self-confidence.

Positive affirmations

Icultivate positive thinking. I always see things and people from the positive angle. I always see the best in every person and circumstances. I always talk positively about health, happiness and success. I am generous with my praise and appreciation, especially at home. I cultivate courtesy, consideration and sincerity always. I leave the past behind and press forward diligently to new achievement. I believe in myself. I am confident that I can make a good contribution, I have faith, poise, self-reliance.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Petroleum

Fossil fuels are combustible materials of organic origin, including oil, bitumen, natural gas, and coal. Such materials were formed by geochemical processes from the remains of organisms that were buried in the geologic past. Since the late 18th century, these mineral fuels have become the primary sources of energy for the industrial nations of the world. Together, the fossil fuels supply almost 90 per cent of all the energy consumed today.

Recent scientific assessments place the world's total original endowment of recoverable conventional (*i.e.* light and medium) oil at approximately 1,635,000,000,000 barrels. Thirty-two per cent of this oil, however, has already been consumed and only 30 per cent is estimated as still undiscovered. Seventy-eight per cent of the unconsumed conventional oil is thought to be located in the Eastern Hemisphere. The major deposits of heavy oils, on the other hand, are known to lie in the Western Hemisphere.

Discovery and early uses: Small surface occurrences of petroleum in the form of natural gas and oil seeps have been known from early times. The ancient Sumerians, Assyrians, and Babylonians used crude oil and asphalt ("pitch") more than 5000 years ago. Liquid oil was first used as a medicine by the ancient Egyptians, presumably as a wound dressing, liniment, and laxative.

Oil products were valued as weapons of war in the ancient world. The Persians used incendiary arrows wrapped in oil-soaked fibres at the siege of Athens in 480 BC. Early in the Christian Era the Arabs and Persians distilled crude oil to obtain flammable products for military purposes. Probably as a result of the Arab invasion of Spain, the industrial art of distillation into illuminants became available in western

Europe by the 12th century.

The Industrial Revolution brought on an ever-growing demand for a cheaper and convenient source of lubricants as well as illuminating oil. It also required better sources of energy. Energy had previously been provided by human and animal muscle and later by the combustion of such solid fuels as wood, peat, and coal. These were collected with considerable effort and laboriously transported to the site where the energy source was needed. Liquid petroleum, on the other hand, was a more easily transportable source of energy. Oil was a much more concentrated and flexible form of fuel than anything previously available.

In August 1859 the first well, specifically to explore oil, was drilled under a project undertaken by Edwin L. Drake in northwestern Pennsylvania, USA. The completion of the well established the groundwork for the petroleum industry and ushered in the closely associated modern industrial age.

World Distribution

Two overriding principles apply to world petroleum production. First, most petroleum is contained in a few large fields, but most fields are small. Second, as exploration progresses, the average size of the fields discovered decreases, as does the amount of petroleum found per unit of exploratory drilling. In any region, the large fields are usually discovered first.

Since exploration for oil began during the early 1860s, some 40,000 oil fields have been discovered. More than 90 per cent of these fields are insignificant in their impact on world oil production.

Only 37 supergiant oil fields have been found worldwide, yet these fields originally

contained about 51 per cent of all the oil so far discovered. The Arabian-Iranian sedimentary basin in the Persian Gulf region contains 26 of these supergiant fields. The remaining supergiants are distributed as follows: two in the United States, two in the former Soviet Union, two in Mexico, two in Libya, one in Algeria, one in Venezuela, and one in China.

The nearly 300 world-class giant fields thus far discovered, plus the 37 supergiants, account for about 80 per cent of the world's known recoverable oil. There are, in addition, approximately 1,000 known large oil fields. These fields account for some 14 to 16 per cent of the world's known oil. Less than 5 per cent of the known fields originally contained roughly 95 per cent of all of the world's known oil.

In 1890 the petroleum industry began to drill wells offshore from wharves into a coastal field in Santa Barbara, California, USA. Offshore drilling was a logical step in areas where geologic evidence pointed toward a seaward continuation of similar sedimentary environments and types of structures that had proved rewarding on land.

The Middle East is thought to have had an estimated 39 per cent of the world's total oil endowment. North America is a distant second but has already produced approximately half of its total oil. Eastern Europe, because of the large deposits in the former Soviet Union, is well endowed with oil. Western Europe is not, with most of its oil under the North Sea. Likewise, Africa, Asia, and South America are thought to have only relatively moderate amounts of oil. It is interesting to note that the largest undiscovered oil resource is believed to exist in North America, which has a large number of frontier basins. Both the Middle East and Eastern Europe, however, are also thought to contain significant oil prospects.

PARAGRAPH-WRITING

Model Paragraphs

"Society is created by our wants, government by our wickedness."

—Thomas Paine

Since man is a social animal, it is incumbent upon him to live in a society as a civilised being, conforming to its conventions and mores. Man is a bundle of varied wants and if left alone, he may find the going rough and tough. It is out of the compelling contours of existence that the idea of a having some form of a group or collective life must have occurred to him in the initial stages of social evolution. If society is the outcome of man's growing needs and their possible satisfaction, the creation of government, armed with coercive powers, must have come about as a result of man's wicked nature and his propensity to harm others. The cult of 'might is right' could not be sustained for long and thus was born the institution of government that could curb all negative forces in an individual or a group of law-breakers. Evil in man can work havoc and one need not go far to see what anarchy means. Had there been no government, wickedness would have been the reigning rule of life and the social fabric would have been torn to pieces.

"Optimism is the true reflection of faith in God."

Nothing manifests human faith in God as cogently and meaningfully as man's inclination to look up to optimism, just as a wandering ship does to the Pole Star or the Light House. The presence of God can be felt as much in His myriad creations as in the ever-green principle of 'hope against hope' and

'optimism against odds'. Half the battle of life can be won by putting our trust in the golden principle of 'something good turning up for the better even in a sullen situation'. Those who raise their hands in desperation, and give up the fight, are victims of their own phobias. Nothing can cure such souls as always look at the dark side of life and thus berate and belittle the sterling qualities in them that need to be aroused to tame the foe within and the enemy outside. Nothing stands by us in good stead as much as our faith in optimism, that is the other name of God. We can transform defeat into victory, tears into smiles, provided we look upon hope and optimism as something real and rigorous

"All speech ends but silence endures."

Between the faculties of speech and silence the former enjoys a pride of place among human beings whereas the latter is the privilege of saints and sages. The fact remains that no speech can take the place of silence which has numerous nuances and innumerable interpretations. With the departure of man, the gift of gab that he enjoyed, and exercised over his listeners, becomes silent for ever. His oratory ends with the end of his speech. We may gloat over the recorded pieces of his speech, song or other oratory skills, but as far as the fresh bouts of his speech are concerned, they have come to an end with the stoppage of his heart-beating. On the contrary, an ascetic lost in silent meditation, evokes a halo, the hues of which we can seldom fathom or fully understand. Pieces of art, like sculpture, painting, wall carvings and the like, though silent in nature and yet offer a fulsome feast of excitement and exultation. These pieces

of excellence, preserved through ages, tell more in their silence and communicate far better with their enraptured onlookers than the spoken words before an indifferent audience.

"Religion was born when the first charlatan met the first fool."

—Voltaire

Belief in the existence of God or gods took a concrete form when mankind was groping in the dark and the antics of a charlatan and the follies of a fool were proving too boorish to bear. The quack on the one hand and the fool on the other, were standing on flimsy grounds but were claiming to have a firm control over forces that nature unleashes from time to time. When the world had had enough of the deceptive designs of the charlatan and the follies and frivolities of the fool, some divine power in the garb of a human being, brought light where darkness was ruling supreme. The concepts of spirituality, meditation, salvation, and the immortality of soul gradually tore into bits the false masks of the cheat and the fool and showed to the world their real faces of deceit and double-dealing. Religion based on good intents and august actions began to make inroads into human consciousness and concerns. It was out of necessity that some enlightened souls brushed aside the fake feats of both a charlatan and a fool, and brought into limelight the inherent angel in all human beings. In fact the very meeting of a cheat or a quack and a fool, was like lightening that flashed across and gave birth to the pristine principles and practices of high thinking and truthful living.

CAREER

Company Secretary

Company Secretary is an important functionary in any Company. Section 383-A of the Companies Act requires that any company having a paid up share-capital of Rs 25 lakhs or more statutorily requires to appoint a whole-time Company Secretary. Also, other Companies seeking listing on stock-exchanges must have a whole-time Company Secretary (CS). The Companies Act also provides that the CS cannot be a part-time employee of more than one companies. In other words, most of the Companies in India need a whole-time Company Secretary and failure to have one may invite penal action and fine against the said company as well as its Directors.

The policy of liberalisation during the recent years has resulted in rapid growth of trade and industry. Many new Companies are coming into being and many joint ventures are being undertaken. This has resulted in exceptionally high demand for Company Secretaries. A fresh CS may be appointed as a Company Secretary or Assistant Company Secretary at middle/senior level management of a company. Even the Public Sector Undertakings (Government companies) are required to have whole-time CS and it is only in exceptional cases the PSUs are exempted from having a CS. With some valuable experience as CS, the qualified Company Secretary may grow and reach the levels of Managing Director, Director, or even Chairman in the Company concerned. Supported by additional academic and professional qualifications, a person having CS qualification may become a member of the governing body of any prestigious body under the Union or the State Governments or even the Nationalized Banks.

A qualified CS may also pursue career as a practising Company Secretary after obtaining a certificate of practice from

the Institute of Company Secretaries of India. Section 2(2) of the Company Secretaries Act provides that a Company Secretary in practice may be called upon to arrange the promotion, formation and incorporation of a new company or amalgamation, reorganisation or winding up. Such a practising CS may represent a particular company in the matters of filing any document, registering, presenting or attesting any document on behalf of a company before any statutory authority. He/she may also practice as a share transfer agent, issue houses, a share and stock broker, a secretarial auditor, consultant or advisor to any company in the matters pertaining to Capital issues, Securities, Company matters, Foreign Exchange Regulation, Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices and any other business law. All the listed companies, as per the Companies Act are required to file their annual returns, duly signed by a whole time practising Company Secretary, in addition to the authorised managers of the company concerned.

Company Secretaries' Institute

The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) is the only institution which provides the qualification of CS in India. Located in New Delhi, the Institute was constituted under the Company Secretaries Act 1980 with a view to develop and regulate this profession in India. It has four Regional Offices at Calcutta, Delhi, Madras and Bombay. It further has 34 Chapters located at almost all major cities of the country covering almost all the States and their capitals. There are 5 Chapters in the eastern region, 11 in the southern region, 10 in the northern region and 8 in the western region.

As mentioned earlier, ICSI is the only institution in the country which entitles one to get the qualification of a CS. To get this qualification, a person requires to pass Preliminary (unless exempted), Intermediate and Final Examinations conducted by the Institute. In addition, two to three years' practical training with additional four months' training as prescribed in the regulations of the Institute are essential. After completing all the streams of examination and training, one becomes an Associate member of the Institute. Senior Associate members may become Fellows after which they can use the letters 'FCS' with their names.

Exams and Registration

To qualify as CS and become an Associate member of the Institute, there is a three tier examination system and after the Preliminary Examination, the students are required to be registered for Intermediate and Final Examinations. Registration with the Institute remains valid for a period of five years from the month of registration. In other words a registered student has to pass the Intermediate and Final Examinations conducted by the ICSI within a period of five years from registration.

Preliminary Examination

Graduates in any discipline or with any other qualification considered equivalent to this examination, are eligible for admission to the Preliminary Examination. It may be noted that the candidates are not required to register themselves for this examination, but are only required to enrol for it by filling an application form alongwith the required fee. There are four papers at the Preliminary Examination

level, namely English and Business Communication, Business Organisation and Management, Principles of Accountancy and Business Law and Secretarial Practice. Candidates, who at the degree level had passed any paper covering substantially the contents of any of the above four papers with 50 per cent or more marks, may be exempted from that particular paper in the Preliminary Examination.

Total exemption from the Preliminary Examination is also allowed to the candidates having any of the following qualifications:

(i) A degree in Commerce or Corporate Secretaryship;

(ii) National Diploma in Commerce, awarded by AICTE;

(iii) Pass in the Final Examination of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India or the Institute of Cost and Works Accountants or any other Accountancy Institution in India or abroad considered its equivalent;

(iv) Graduate degree in any discipline other than Fine Arts; with 50 per cent or more marks;

(v) Masters degree in any discipline other than Fine Arts; or

(vi) Degree in any discipline other than Fine Arts with a Diploma in Commerce, Law, Management or Company Secretarial practice awarded by any University or Institution recognised by the Council.

Any candidate seeking exemption, with qualifications mentioned at (iv) to (vi) above will have to undergo a course of postal or oral tuition for the subjects he/she had not studied at the Graduate/Post Graduate Level.

Registration

A person who passes the Preliminary Examination or is eligible for exemption, is then required to be registered as a student with the Council for Intermediate and Final Examinations. Registration with the Council can be done by submitting a prescribed registration form along with attested copies of the certificates of academic qualifications and date of birth, as mini-

mum age required for registration is 18 years. Minimum amount payable at the time of registration is Rs 1150 which includes registration fee for a period of 5 years, postal tuition fee for Intermediate Examination and fee for exemption from Preliminary Examination. Registration is open throughout the year. The candidates registered upto and including the month of February are eligible for appearing in the Intermediate Examination held in December same year and the candidates registered upto and including the month of August may appear in this examination to be held in June next year, subject to completion of coaching.

The ICSI imparts compulsory tuition for the students registered for the Preliminary Examination. Similar tuition is also imparted to the students for the Final Examination. In addition, the students who do not have commerce background are required to undergo coaching for the Preliminary Examination also, particularly in those subjects which were not studied by them at graduation/post-graduation level examination. Regional Council or the Chapters of the Institute also provide the facility of oral coaching classes in addition to the compulsory postal tuition.

A student may appear for the Final Examination only after nine months of passing the Intermediate Examination. The Intermediate Examination has 8 papers divided in 2 groups. Group I papers include General Laws and Procedures, Tax Laws, Industrial Law and Practice and Economic and other Legislations. Group II papers are Company Law and Practice-I & II, Company Accounts-Treatment and Procedures and, cost and Management Accounting. A candidate may appear and pass one Group papers at a time. Exemption from a few papers is available in case the candidate has passed a paper with minimum of 50 per cent marks while doing Law/or M.Com/CA/Corporate Secretaryship etc.

The Final Examination has nine papers divided in three Groups. Group 1 includes papers on Financial Management, information, and Management Control and

Audit. Group 2 also has three papers like Corporate Tax Management and Planning, Indirect Taxation Law and Procedures and Drafting and Conveyancing. Similarly, Group 3 of the Final Examination has three papers of Corporate Law and Practice, Directors, Boards and Related Secretarial Practice, and Advanced Secretarial Practice. A candidate who has passed the final examination of ICWAI may seek exemption from three papers of the Final examination including Financial Management, Corporate Planning and Management Information and Management Control and Audit.

Practical Training

After passing the Final Examination of the Council the candidates are required to undergo practical training. Every candidate must possess practical experience of 2 to 3 years. In addition, practical training for a period of 4 months is also a must. This four-month training includes 15 days secretarial training organised by the Institute at its Regional Council/Chapters. All those candidates who do not possess the required practical experience are required to undergo management training for a period of one year or apprenticeship training for a period of six months on full-time basis or for one year on part-time basis under a whole-time practising Company Secretary or a firm of Company Secretaries. It is after successful completion of practical experience and training that a candidate is finally considered to have qualified as a Company Secretary and may then be registered as an Associate member of the Institute.

The ICSI also awards prizes, merit scholarship and merit-cum-means assistance to the meritorious students based on their performance in the Institute's examinations. The SC/ST candidates are required to pay only half of the fees. The examinations are held in the months of June and December every year. At present there are over 40 examination centres where Intermediate and Final Examination are held and almost every major city of the Country has one examination centre.

Descriptive Questions

Proper utilisation of animal and agricultural waste

Q. Suggest at least three effective measures to properly utilise animal wastes, like dung and agricultural wastes, which are available in abundance in villages. Explain how your suggestions will be helpful to the villagers for their economic upliftment.

Ans. The countryside anywhere on the globe abounds in animal and agricultural wastes. Such wastes in the villages always provide an additional prop to the village economy. There are traditional as well as technical ways to utilise animal and agricultural wastes to boost the village economy. Since India is primarily an agricultural country, abundant in cattle and man-power, it is but natural that besides the agricultural wastes, villagers have to be taught and trained to properly utilise the animal wastes in the following manner, both to supplement their incomes as well as to better their living environment.

Instead of using dung cakes for cooking purposes, which is harmful to health and surroundings, the most harmless but economically viable utilisation of dung can be made in the production of bio-gas. Since such a gas is smoke-free, much of the other means of fuel like wood, kerosene oil or LPG, can be saved and the expenditure or money thus saved, can help the villagers invest elsewhere and raise their living standards.

Dung can also be made use of as manure to raise agricultural output. With modern technology the crude use of dung as manure can be improved and the resultant increase in agricultural products can mean more money-cum-purchasing power in the hands of villagers. Moreover, the extensive use of dung as natural manure can

spare the soil of the ill-effects of fertilisers and pesticides.

Just as animal dung can supplement the income of villagers, similarly agricultural wastes can go a long way in bringing to them extra sources of earnings and thus better their living conditions. Most of the agricultural wastes, handled and marketed with the help of machines, can keep the villages neat and clean as well as supply fodder and food to the animal and bird species.

Rice husk, like wheat straw or chaff, can be put to more proper use than what has been going on till now. Edible oil can be extracted from husk and as a result, more employment and incoming generation opportunities can be created in the countryside. Husk can also take the place of coal as fuel in chimneys and much of the precious 'black gold' can be saved for other more urgent and immediate areas of operation.

Effects of television on life-style

Q. Some critics feel that television, which has reached even the remotest centres of our country, has very rapidly changed the life-style of our countrymen. Some of them also feel that in addition, it has made people more and more a-social, self-centred and indifferent to the agonies of others.

What are your views on the above propositions? Give three cogent reasons in support of your views.

Ans. The propositions as they express the strong views of critics on television and its ill-effects on viewers of all age-groups, are indeed sweeping in concept and concern. To brush them aside as the voices of cynicism would be equally short-sighted

and shallow in approach and attitude. What the critics have pointed out is neither irrelevant nor irreverent to the 'Idiot Box' that has come to occupy a paramount position in our lives. People in general, but the children and youth in particular, are found glued to the television sets at all hours, unmindful of the risks that are too obvious to be ignored. There is no denying the fact that television viewing has become an all-consuming passion with the result that values, attitudes and aspirations of the people are undergoing a sea change and if the craze for becoming the 'captive audience' of the magic box continues to hold its sway over our thoughts and actions, the worst fears of the critics may turn out to be more than a rigorous reality of our social mores and individual inclinations.

Television, both as a boon and a bane, swallows much of our leisure. Undoubtedly it has brought within our watching and hearing distance a splendid spectrum of entertainment, information and education. But, the way people at large have become its abject addicts and almost forsaken their social obligations, the observation of critics that 'people have become a-social' in their perceptions and practices, carries enough weight. Having become passive slaves of all types of programmes, the worst blow has fallen on human relations, social get-togethers, formal as well as informal meetings and the like. The common complaint that 'television viewing' does not leave enough time to socialise and exchange pleasantries is a sad commentary on our tastes and the tight grip of television on our lives.

Television has played a decisive role in moulding our habits of eating, dressing, possessing goods of all types and the resultant fall-out of the glittering world of

television is there for us to see in the 'all powerful cult of consumerist culture'. People of all age-groups are going mad to have in their kitty all the expensive things advertised on the small screen. The tendency to grow rich over-night has caught the people on the wrong foot. The success and speed syndrome have made them highly self-centred and selfish. They want to make the best of both the worlds by hook or crook, unmindful of the needs of others.

Caught between the devil and the deep sea, both the developments of being anti-social and self-concerned, have further rendered most of us cold and callous to the agonies of others. The pattern of life, as portrayed on the idiot-box and our willingness to imitate that, has certainly blunted our sensibilities and quite often we find ourselves totally alienated from the common cares and concerns of our neighbours, the passers-by, the sufferers and so on. In short, the world of television has become too much with us to leave even a few moments for social commitments, selfless service and an active participation in the problems of others.

Only rice cultivation all over the Country

Q. Suppose the climatic and soil conditions of our country permit the cultivation of only rice and no other foodgrain. Give three important consequences of this situation.

Ans. Not a country but a continent, India rightfully prides itself in the diversity of its people, their cultural contours, religions and rituals, fairs and festivals and above all in their diverse modes of living, daily mores and manners. Likewise, its landscape throws up a variety of soils suitable for cultivation of different food-grains and the complexion of its climate varying from region to region, makes India a country as diverse as any continent but as cohesive and harmonious as any chorus or orchestra. If by any quirk of circumstances or unnatural happening, the entire country develops a uniform climate and a similar soil all over, suitable for the cultivation of only rice, the consequences could be any-

thing but pleasant.

Those who are not used to eating rice only as their staple food, and their number all over the country is highly significant, would find the going tough and may not feel it easy to change their food habits so soon or so suddenly. The shift from their age-old dependence on food-grains like wheat, barley, gram, maize and the like to only rice, may create both physical as well as psychological problems for them, besides the dilemma of changing the crop patterns from many food-grains to only rice.

Most of the agro-based industries would have to either close down their shutters or go in for heavy imports of food-grains other than rice, to keep them going. The prospects of unemployment due to the non-availability of food-grains at home or a heavy strain on foreign exchange for their recurring imports cannot be ruled out. Since the supply and price situation of food-grains from abroad is neither stable nor sustainable on long-term basis, the apprehensions of short supplies or price rise in the world market, would always loom large over the agro-based Indian industries solely dependent on the regular supply of raw material like wheat, maize, barley, gram, sugar-cane and the like.

Lastly, variety which is the spice of life, would disappear from one end to the other when both the climatic and soil conditions become uniform. The splendour and colourfulness of India's topography, flora and fauna, folk lore and traditions (to mention a few of its special features), would lose their charm yielding place to monotony, sterility of thoughts and actions and a severe blow to its ageless diversity, variety and multi-facetedness.

Floods and farmers

Q. Large parts of our country have to face floods every year. Suggest at least three effective measures which will enable the farmers to turn this annual calamity into their advantage. Explain how these measures suggested by you will be useful.

Ans. There is no gainsaying the fact that the fury and ferocity of floods, year after year, play havoc, not only with the rich soil and standing crops but also with human as well as animal life. Everytime, when floods overwhelm vast areas of cultivable land and residential areas, the losses in terms of life, natural resources and the erosion of rich land run to millions. One of the biggest challenges that we have failed to face squarely is the area of 'proper water management', both perennial as well as seasonal. If we have really learnt anything from the past, when floods had been causing enormous damage to the farmers, their fields, hearth and homes, the following measures should be given a serious thought and if found practicable, should be implemented in stages in those areas that are more prone to floods.

A national plan to control floods and also the launching of a technology mission to regulate them, can be considered and put through. Since floods occur when the run-off water from the catchment areas exceeds the bank capacity of the river, we can store the run-off water in reservoirs and tanks and release it after the river recedes, thus feed the fields with water when it is required the most.

Before the onset of rains desilting of canals, channels, drains etc should be undertaken as a priority operation and not as a half-hearted ad hoc course of action. Construction of small dams to conserve surplus water can be taken hand because the usefulness of big dams in terms of water management, ecological balance and rehabilitation of uprooted persons has become more a controversy than a straight solution of the problem.

By bringing more land under the green cover, we can minimise the risk of the rushing waters of rivulets, streams and like, making dents and cleavages into the soil. Additional cushions can be built in the existing dams so that they can accumulate run-off water that can be used during the dry-season. Like the 'national power grid', the establishment of a 'national water grid' can be thought of, although the cost of such a project would be enormous.

Questions on Social and Economic Problems

Q. The Family Planning programme in India has been a dismal failure. Comment and give arguments for and against the view.

Ans. *The Indian population is expected to reach 1.4 billion by the year 2005. Although the fertility rate has decreased, it is still double the level at which population will stabilise. Critics have pointed out that since the inception in 1951, the Indian Family Planning programme has been nothing but a dismal failure. There have been various arguments for and against this view:*

Arguments For

1. The Indian Administration has not been able to successfully pinpoint why people want and have children. There are various factors intermingled e.g. belief that 'children are gift of God' theory, treating children as security for old age, need on the part of women to have children to be accepted in society.

2. Policy makers believed in the 'trickle down' effect of development policies. They assumed that development would itself act as the best contraceptive. However, development is a relative concept. Population problem has to be handled by a wise approach towards poverty coupled with a personal freedom to exercise choice.

3. Family planning programmes have often failed due to lack of infrastructure. Information, education and communication form the basics of any such programme. Once there is sufficient acceptance and awareness, the government has to step in with the required support system. However, in India there is a high level of contraceptive failure due to poor quality condoms, poorly maintained IUDs and inadequate use of birth control pills. On top of that, the rising age of marriage and sexual activity among single and young people has not been addressed. Sex educa-

tion in homes, schools as well as in the media is severely lacking.

Arguments Against

1. Family Planning programmes have been effective in reducing the birth rate. From 45.2 per thousand in 1941 it has fallen to 29.6 per thousand in 1991. It is expected that if the same trends continue, the rate will be lowered to 21 per thousand by the year 2000.

2. Health programmes have lowered infant mortality and the overall death rate, a precondition for population control, in every single State. So the birth rate has fallen in every State, even the four laggards called the BIMARU States (Bihar, MP, Rajasthan, UP).

3. Family Planning programmes are not the sole factor for this problem. The birth rate is correlated with factors like urbanisation, literacy and income levels. As conditions in these areas improve, there will be an effect on family size also. Also, religious denominations throw up a wall. Contraception is forbidden in certain religions.

4. There are 60 million couples of reproductive age in the country—perhaps, even more. At times it might not be possible to reach all of them.

5. A Draft National Policy was submitted in May 1994. This report, said to be "pro-nature, pro-poor and pro-women", is expected to bring about some changes in the total outlook. The policy seeks to decentralise the Family Planning programme, taking it away from bureaucrats and politicians, and putting it in the hands of Panchayats and Zila Parishads. This is meant to add impetus at the grass root level.

Whatever be the various arguments for and against the family planning

programme, the fact remains that it is high time that forceful measures are taken to solve this menace.

Q. There has been a widespread talk of a credit crunch affecting the Indian Industry. Discuss the various angles related to this problem.

Ans. Various independent studies seem to show that the industry is facing a serious financial crunch. It has been pointed out that the economy is going through a major credit squeeze due to an acute tight money policy. Normally, the adequacy of credit availability is said to depend on the scale of economic activity. Since the rate of growth in the industrial sector and in exports during 1995-96 was much higher than that in 1994-95, the credit expansion should have been higher. But it wasn't. This can be easily gauged from the rate of interest too. Real rates of interest have climbed to astronomical levels which suggests that the increase in the supply of credit has been much less than adequate.

A major source of funds to industry is the capital market which remains in a bearish phase. The money raised through external commercial borrowings fell sharply from \$ 1984 million during the period April-February 1994-95 to \$ 302 million in the same period of the current year.

Moreover, industry's recourse to assistance from financial institutions has also been reduced. For example, the ratio of disbursements to sanctions has declined for major financial institutions.

Although there has been an increase of 30 per cent rise in non-food credit, this meets a comparatively lower percentage (about 25) of the total capital requirements of the industry. At the same time, there has been a decline in the amount raised through the capital market. There has been a fall of

over Rs 22000 crores in the collections through the primary market between the periods of April to February 1994-95 and 1995-96. To add to this, there has been a decline in funds raised by mutual funds, which fell by almost 700 per cent from Rs 4227 crores in 1994-95 to Rs 600 crores in 1995-96. The growth of deposits with banks has only been Rs 40,000 crores against the targeted Rs 65,000 crores.

There have also been allegations that in the middle of this tight money policy, there has been a crowding out of private investment by the government during the period when the banks were flush with money. Banks had invested over Rs 1,50,000 crores in government securities since the government had been borrowing at fairly remunerative rates from the market. This money of the banks is locked up with the government in the form of excess SLR and, in the absence of a debt market for these instruments, it was not available for utilisation when needed. Otherwise the liquidity crisis could have been diluted by the capital raised through this source.

Given these trends, it has been felt that the continuing pressure on demand for capital, there would be a pressure on the lending rate of interest. It is expected that national lending rates would continue to be in the range of 17 to 20 per cent.

There are some, however, who point out that since the interest rates are already high, they can only fall. If political factors have an adverse effect on the growth of the economy, then the demand for credit will go down, leading to a downward pressure on the structure of interest rates. Moreover, the interest rate is also a crucial instrument of monetary policy and much depends on the new government's priorities.

Q. Small-Scale Industries face a number of problems which affects their performance. Comment and discuss steps taken to help these industries.

Ans. India's small-scale Industries face a lot of problems. Shortage of raw materials is the most dominant one. The marketing facilities are inadequate in the country. To add to that, transport facilities are very expensive and not very timely.

There are some problems that creep in

through the basic infrastructure. Power cuts are a major problem. Labour problems remain a major hindrance. Capital is by and large inadequate. There are heavy interest charges on loans given by the financial institutions. These problems are further accentuated by the excessive control and harassment by inspectors. Bureaucracy also often indulges in corrupt practices.

The small-scale sector also has to face the impact of recessionary pressures, fiscal retrenchment and the Government's tight monetary policy.

There were certain steps taken by the Government to solve these problems. MRTP clearances were abolished. Reforms were initiated in the Public Sector. Foreign investment upto 51 per cent equity was provided for. Policies also provided for automatic approval for foreign technology agreements. The aim of these policies has been to unshackle Indian Industry from the myriad administrative and legal controls which have become unnecessary in the changed national and global economic environment. There were four major objectives listed: employment generation, reduction of social and economic disparities, removal of poverty and attainment of self reliance.

Besides, several items were reserved for the small-scale sector. Promotion of the industrial and agro-industrial employment would continue. Therefore, it has been felt that a lot of emphasis needs to be laid upon more agriculture-based and forest produce-based small-scale industries. The aim has to be to ensure optimum utilisation of our limited resources through small-scale and ancillary industries.

The development of small-scale industries has been given high priority. This has been done keeping in mind the advantages in terms of low investment and high potential for employment generation in rural and semi-urban areas. The Eighth Plan had tripled the investment for promotion and development of village and small industries. This has been done keeping in mind the immense potential of this sector in generation of productive entry employment and earning foreign exchange. Even the 20-point plan laid stress on handicrafts, handloom and small village industries.

Q. What have been the major aims of the land reforms policy in India? Critically evaluate why the land reforms have not been very successful.

Ans. From the very beginning of the planning process, land reforms have remained one of the major policies for rural and overall economic development. It was felt that for the development of agriculture in India, there was a dire need for land reforms. Some of the major aims of the land reforms policy have been.

(1) **To abolish Zamindari:** At the time of independence, about 57% of the land in India was under the control of big feudal lords and landlords who got the land cultivated by farmers. The farmers were also supposed to pay land revenue. This hampered direct contact between the farmers and the government. There was rampant exploitation of the farmers by these intermediaries, i.e. the landlords and feudal lords. With the initiation of land reforms, it became possible to establish direct contact between the government and the farmers. The land revenue could be collected directly by the government from the farmers and several policies for land reforms were implemented.

(2) **Tenancy Reforms.** It was found that the condition of farmers who worked by taking land on lease, was very pitiable. They could be deprived of land at any time. So the government sought to improve this with four main measures namely, reduction in rent, security of tenancy, compensation for any improvements on land and conferment of ownership right. The government was of the opinion that till the tiller of land got the confidence that he would not be ejected from land, he would not be able to work wholeheartedly.

(3) **Land Ceiling:** Another aim of the land reform legislations was to prevent the concentration of land in the hands of a few persons. Land ceiling is different in different States—limit ranging from 10 acres to 324 acres.

(4) **Land Consolidation:** Land reform policies also aimed to consolidate land so that small pieces of land of the farmers and

their scattered holdings may be consolidated at once place. This was done with the aim of enabling farmers to make use of modern techniques of cultivation and reap the advantage of new techniques.

Critical evaluation

Though a lot of work has been done in the country, it is not sufficient. According to the Indian Constitution, the responsibility of making and enacting laws pertaining to land is that of the State governments. Although from 1950 to 1959 almost all the States passed land reform acts, their pace of success was rather slow. The aim of "Land to the Tiller" has not been achieved. Besides, a new feudal class has emerged in the sphere of agriculture which holds 30 to 60 acres of land. Even some of the old landlords have ejected the tenants from their lands under pretext that they want to cultivate land themselves. Land ceiling laws have not been enforced properly. People who have become new landlords are worse than the old landlords. Their tenants, called crop-sharers, feel insecure. The *Zamindari* system also exists as before.

The purpose of introducing land reforms has largely been defeated by the big landlords and other vested interests through fictitious divisions of land. There have been mere paper entries in the records with the collusion of Patwaris and Tehsildars. Endless litigations, *Benami* transactions and fake ownership of holdings are a black mark on the programme. There have been innumerable frauds in land distribution. In *bhoodan* (waste areas and on which hardly anything can be grown) useless lands were donated to earn credit for donating land to the poor and the needy.

Land reforms were intended to bring the largest number of poor farmers and agricultural workers into the mainstream of economic development. Although lakhs of acres of land were declared surplus, but the redistribution process has been very faulty and has not benefitted the really needy sections.

It has often been said that the major problem in the implementation of land

reforms has been a lack of commitment on the part of the authorities. The bureaucracy can play a positive role in efficient implementation of the land reforms. Besides there has to be adequate reassessment of the reform policy to make it more useful for the targeted group.

Q. What factors are responsible for the growth of communalism in India? How can the effect of communalism be minimised?

Ans. Communalism is that narrow feeling under whose influence any religious community begins to neglect the interests of other communities and nation for the fulfilment of its own political, economic and social selfish interests. Communalism has played a divisive role in the politics of India before and after the attainment of independence in 1947. It was estimated that from 1961 to 1984 about 12,000 communal incidents took place in India.

There are a number of factors that are responsible for the growth of communalism.

(1) **British Policy of Divide and Rule:** The British have been known for their policy of 'Divide and Rule' which they followed to strengthen the roots of their living in India and create distrust among them. After partition also, the poison of communalism did not get curbed but spread more.

(2) **Religious Mistrust and Fanaticism:** In a multi-religious State like India, it is a big drawback that there exists a feeling of mistrust that becomes the basis of communalism.

(3) **Communal Political Organisations:** Several communal organisations have grown in India. These create hatred among the people of different religious communities.

(4) **Economic Backwardness:** Certain sections of society are economically backward e.g. a major part of the Muslim community. With the advent of the Britishers in India, the sources of income of the Muslims ended gradually—specifically, that of the Muslim artisans. This backwardness leads to extreme disappointment and discontentment.

(5) **Role of Pakistan:** It has often been alleged that Pakistan has played a contemptuous role in the spread of communalism in India. Pakistani media especially plays a very negative role and presents exaggerated versions of all such problems.

(6) **Government's Inertia:** Sometimes people also say that the inertia of the Union and State governments, for not taking proper action at the proper time, is also responsible. The government has not prepared any effective and rational policy to solve this problem. The appeasement policy so often practised by the government further adds to the problem. To add to this, political leaders exploit such situations for their own personal benefit.

There have been various suggestions that have been put forward regarding the control of this menace:

(1) There has to be a limitation on the formation of Communal Political parties. This can even come in the form of a legal ban

(2) There must be a code of conduct for political parties so that the parties do not take advantage of every communal incident.

(3) There is a need for strengthening secularism in India. For this purpose, the media can play a very positive role. They should strive to build a feeling of goodwill among all religions.

(4) The root of most of the ills of India lies in the economic and social backwardness of its people. There has to be an effort on the part of the government to remove social and economic backwardness of the people.

(5) Education can play an important role in creating communal harmony. Religious toleration can be taught in schools and colleges. Education should be value-based in India.

(6) Religious leaders can also play a positive role in creating an ideal communal environment and teach the people lessons of mutual toleration and respect.

If communalism enters into the vitals of a society, it hollows and weakens it from inside. Therefore, it is necessary to overcome this problem.

VOCABULARY

Improve Your Word Power

1. **abashed:** (a) proud (b) learned (c) ashamed (d) ignorant.
2. **bicker:** (a) settle (b) quarrel (c) regret (d) examine.
3. **chock-a-block:** (a) tightly packed (b) narrowly escaped (c) seriously injured (d) highly explosive
4. **decoy:** (a) ugly person (b) tasteless food (c) dull show (d) attractive person.
5. **eulogize:** (a) verify (b) notify (c) praise (d) punish.
6. **fox-trot:** (a) race (b) dance (c) exhibition (d) circus.
7. **galumph:** (a) walk clumsily (b) murmur (c) whisper (d) snore.
8. **hoi-polloi:** (a) masses (b) criminals (c) audience (d) shareholders.
9. **impersonate:** (a) narrate (b) discuss (c) contradict (d) personify.
10. **jeremaid:** (a) proverb (b) proof (c) story (d) dream.
11. **kink:** (a) mental peculiarity (b) spiritual strength (c) financial bankruptcy (d) moral crisis
12. **mendacious:** (a) soft (b) untruthful (c) colourful (d) repentant.
13. **namby-pamby:** (a) hardly believable (b) foolishly sentimental (c) simply charming (d) highly suitable.
14. **obstreperous:** (a) delicate (b) scholarly (c) descriptive (d) noisy.
15. **piffle:** (a) nonsense (b) advice (c) proposal (d) excuse.
16. **quaff:** (a) threaten (b) pacify (c) drink (d) compensate.
17. **swap:** (a) borrow (b) exchange (c) forgive (d) forget.
18. **titular:** (a) title (without authority) (b) colonial power (c) imperial grandeur (d) royal status.
19. **wheelde:** (a) swim (b) sink (c) drown (d) persuade.
20. **yucky:** (a) pleasant (b) helpful (c) nasty (d) weak

ANSWERS

1. **abashed:** (c) ashamed, embarrassed.
—The wife's criticism left the husband feeling *abashed* in the company of friends.
2. **bicker:** (b) quarrel, dispute.
—The children are always *bickering* with each other over their toys.
3. **chock-a-block:** (a) tightly packed, completely full.
—In between a *chock-a-block* schedule, the distinguished scholar managed to address the college students.
4. **decoy:** (a) attractive person or thing.
—Police *decoys* and anti-eve-teasing squads fan onto city roads to check the growing menace of eve-teasing.
5. **eulogize:** (c) praise, compliment.
—Fans or fanatics, they are always found *eulogizing* their

favourite star or god-man.

6. **fox-trot:** (b) dance
—His political fox-trot once again brought into focus the politics of 'Aya Ram, Gaya Ram'.
7. **galumph:** (b) walk or run noisily or clumsily.
—The children came *galumphing* into the house like a herd of elephants.
8. **hoi-polloi:** (a) masses.
—The *hoi-polloi* who troop in their thousands to sports stadia, are armed with whistles, bugles, fire-crackers and even missiles.
9. **impersonate:** (d) pose (as), personify, imitate.
—He was caught trying to *impersonate* a police officer.
10. **jeremaid:** (c) story (of troubles)
—Such Indian films as try to portray everyday life as a *jeremaid* only, seldom click at the box office
11. **kink:** (a) mental or moral peculiarity.
—He has got a few *kinks* in his personality if you ask me.
12. **mendacious:** (b) untruthful, lying.
—The judge passed severe strictures against police for filing a *mendacious* report in the court.
13. **namby-pamby:** (b) foolishly sentimental (people or talk)
—Don't be such a *namby-pamby* all the time because the persons around you have no liking for you.
14. **obstreperous:** (d) noisy, unruly.
—The nouveau riche have become *obstreperous* about their sudden rise in social hierarchy.
15. **piffle:** (a) nonsense.
—The critic had nothing but polemics, puns and *piffle* to offer the press which had turned up to hear him.
16. **quaff:** (c) drink.
—More people are dying of *quaffing* cheap whisky by the pint than by over-eating.
17. **swap:** (b) exchange, barter.
—Your book looks more interesting than mine, do you want to *swap* (with me)?
18. **titular:** (a) title or position (without authority).
—The King or Queen of England is the *titular* Head of State.
19. **wheelde (out):** (d) persuade, flatter.
—The children *wheelde* me out into letting them go to the film.
20. **Yucky:** (c) nasty, disgusting.
—John always complained about *yucky* school dinners, whenever he came home during holidays.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

NATIONAL

ELECTIONS

United Front forms government

THE BJP government headed by Atal Behari Vajpayee could last only 12 days. Following Mr Vajpayee's resignation, the President asked H.D. Deve Gowda, the newly elected leader of the National Front, to form a new government. He was asked to secure a vote of confidence in the Lok Sabha by June 12, 1996. With Congress support and coalition members, the new government managed to win the vote of confidence of the House.

A 21-member cabinet was sworn in on June 1, 1996. Though it was a wide ranging coalition, the ministry was unrepresentative, leaving out 18 States. Apart from the PM almost half of the 20-member Council of Ministers were from the South. Though UF had earlier stated that hawala-tainted politicians would not be included, Janata Dal leader S.R. Bommai was made a minister.

The new government marked the beginning of an era of coalition politics. It became clear that the power had shifted from the Centre to the States. The coalition has circumscribed the power of the Prime Minister. He heads a presidium, made up of State satraps. It is the State leaders who will enter the ministry and not the PM. And it will be States who will rule Delhi rather than Centre ruling the States.

Sangma becomes Speaker: On May 23, 1996 Purno A. Sangma, joint candidate of the Congress and the United Front, was unanimously elected Speaker of the 11th Lok Sabha. Sangma became the youngest person to assume the office of the Speaker. He is not only the first tribal and first Christian to be elected as the Speaker, but is also the first Speaker drawn from the Opposition.

Vajpayee's 12 Days: The BJP government was doomed from the start. It could not get the support required to have a majority. But the BJP was at pains to ex-

Recent Economic News

Petroleum dominates Import, Rice in Export

Recent statistics on Indian Import and Export reveal that while petroleum products dominate imports, exports have been dominated by rice. During 1995-96, imports of petroleum hiked to \$ 7,547 million as compared to \$ 5,933 million in the previous year, registering a 27.2 per cent growth. Import of edible oil posted the highest growth of 263.9 per cent. It increased from \$ 194 million in 1994-95 to \$ 454 million in 1995-96. Imports of gold and silver have been marked by a modest growth of 3.8 per cent to \$ 742 million in 1995-96.

Other items which increased their share in the 1995-96 \$ 36.37 billion imports are iron and steel, fertilizers, non-ferrous metals, machine tools and electronic goods.

On the export side, in India's total export of \$ 31.83 billion for 1995-96, rice recorded the highest growth of 254.6 per cent. It rose from \$ 376 million in 1994-95 to \$ 1,333 million. As against an increase in the export of items like readymade garments, cotton yarn, electronic goods and softwares, there has been a decline in the export of cashew, marine products and hand carpets.

plain its moderate image. The President's message did not touch issues like the Ram Mandir, Article 370 and the uniform civil code which showed BJP following a pragmatic approach. Vajpayee's Cabinet included Jaswant Singh as Finance Minister and Murli Manohar Joshi as Home Minister. Sushma Swaraj became the Information and Broadcasting Minister and promised to bring morality in television. Except for Sikander Bakht, who seemed unhappy about his charge of Urban Affairs and Employment, the other ministers took every opportunity to verbalise their perception about the functioning of their respective ministries. However, they did not have a chance to prove themselves as their government collapsed.

The Vajpayee cabinet took some decisions before going. The Enron power project was ratified, probe ordered into the Reliance share scandal, and Srikrishna Commission probing into the Mumbai riots, was restored in Maharashtra. Minister for Law Ram Jethmalani pronounced Advani innocent in the hawala case while Defence Minister Pramod Mahajan promised a rise in defence spending.

No Confidence Motion: The National Front made frantic efforts to prevent the

Government from listing any business. The Speaker, P.A. Sangma ruled about the President's address as envisaged under Parliamentary provisions. Though the President had asked Vajpayee to seek vote of confidence by May 31, the vote of confidence was brought on May 27. The Speaker set seven hours for discussion. Initiating the debate, Vajpayee defended his accepting the Presidential offer to form the Government. He stressed that the BJP dropped its three controversial stands in the interest of evolving a consensus in the country. The debate led to acrimonious exchanges and was marred by frequent interruptions. The BJP was attacked for its hurry to form the Government and for being communal. The BJP members condemned its opponents for changing their ideologies before and after elections. At the end of eleven hours of the debate, extending over two days, Vajpayee announced his decision to submit his resignation. Vajpayee created the record of heading a Government for the shortest duration and left the record of being voted out to V.P. Singh.

Minimum programme of UF government: The new government released its minimum programme in a document titled

CURRENT AFFAIRS

NATIONAL

NEW COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

H.D. Deve Gowda (Prime Minister) Home, Agriculture, Personnel, Science and Technology and Atomic Energy

CABINET MINISTERS

P. Chidambaram Finance with additional charge of Law, Justice and Company Affairs

Mulayam Singh Defence

J.K. Gujral External Affairs and additional charge of Water Resources

Ram Vilas Paswan Railways and Parliamentary Affairs

Murugai Maran Industry

Balwant Singh Rimbharia Welfare and additional charge of Labour

C.M. Isherikar Civil Aviation and Tourism and additional charge of Information and Broadcasting

D.P. Yadav Food and Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution and additional charge of Commerce

M. Arunachalam Urban Affairs and Employment

S.R. Bommai Human Resource Development and additional charge of Ministry of Coal

T.G. Venkataraman Surface Transport

Yerran Naidu Rural Areas and Employment

MINISTERS OF STATE

Bani Prasad Verma Communication and Parliamentary Affairs

Chandra Dev Prasad Verma Rural Areas and Employment

Capt Jai Narain Prasad Nishad Environment

Mrs Karli Singh Human Resource Development

Mohd Taslimuddin Home

S. Venugopalechari Power

Salim Iqbal Shervani Health and Family Welfare

Dr U. Venkataswarlu Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs

■ Level playing field to Indian companies

■ Transparent policy on foreign investment. Doing away with case by case clearances

■ Restructuring the financial sector. Domestic and foreign companies will be allowed to enter insurance business

■ Limiting foreign investment to core and infrastructure sectors. Going ahead with privatising of telecom and financial sectors

■ Implementing tax reforms

Change of guard in States

KARUNANIDHI becomes CM in Tamil Nadu. On May 13, 1996 M Karunanidhi was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for the fourth time. He first became the Chief Minister in 1969. The rout of AIADMK in the elections was attributed to various reasons ranging from Jayalalitha's growing indifference to public sentiments and to her aligning with the Congress.

Bansi Lal takes over in Haryana. On May 10 1996 the Governor of Haryana invited Bansi Lal leader of the Haryana Vikas Party (HVP), to form a Government. The HVP emerged as the single largest party. The Congress which had 55 seats in the dissolved House, won

"A Common Approach to Major Policy Matters—a Minimum Programme" on June 5, 1996. It spells out political and economic plans of the government

■ Greater devolution of power to the States

■ Appointment of committee to review and update the Sarkaria Commission

■ Reservation in elected bodies and jobs for women

■ Special courts to ensure justice to SC/ST victims

■ Reservation to dalit Christians

■ No uniform civil code

■ Referring Ayodhya dispute to Supreme Court

■ On the economic side, the government has bypassed its pre-election stand and promises to continue the reforms initiated by the Rao regime. The economic policy is identical to the one put forth by the short-lived BJP government. Liberalisation will continue and the government is committed to

a GDP growth rate of 7 per cent. New investment will be channelled to infrastructure and core sectors

■ Restructuring of the public sector and appointing a disinvestment commission. Pulling PSUs out of non essential areas like hotels

India Heading towards AIDS Epidemic

A British university study has warned of an AIDS disaster looming over India. The country has the largest number of infected cases and the highest figures of new HIV cases each year.

Within a decade of its occurrence in India, AIDS is almost set to assume epidemic proportions. Since 1986 when the first AIDS case was detected in India, AIDS had been reported in almost all the States of India and by early 1994 the number of HIV infections had crossed two million. The north-eastern States of Manipur, Nagaland and Mizoram that account for 3 per cent of the population have 10 to 15 per cent of HIV cases. In view of an estimate that in India there are at least 223 million sexually active men, Prof Robert J Pratt, Professor of Nursing in London, refers 'India as a place fast becoming the global epicentre' of the dreaded plague. The onus falls on the political will and the medical leadership in the country as to best negotiate with their resources to check the onslaught of the growing menace of AIDS.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

NATIONAL

only 9 seats this time. Bansi Lal's claim was strengthened by the support from three independents and the BJP, which won 10 seats.

Bansi Lal was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Haryana for the fourth time. Earlier he had been the Chief Minister in 1968, 1972 and 1986. For the first time in his political career, former Chief Minister Bhajan Lal assumed the role of opposition. Immediately after assuming office, Bansi Lal ordered total prohibition in the State from July 1, 1996, as per its electoral promise.

Mohanta takes over in Assam: In Guwahati, Chief Minister Prafulla Kumar Mohanta of Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) was sworn in on May 15, 1996. It is for the second time that Mohanta became Chief Minister of Assam. When he first became the Chief Minister in 1985, he created a record of becoming the youngest person to become CM. But following a split in the party, the AGP did badly in the 1991 elections.

Return of the Left in Kerala: On May 20, 1996 the CPM-led Left Democratic Front headed by E.K. Nayanar was sworn in Kerala. In the recent elections the LDF led by CPM registered a decisive win over the Congress-led United Democratic Front. It is for the third time that Nayanar has been appointed the Chief Minister.

DMK-led coalition in Pondicherry: The DMK-led coalition government headed by R.V. Janakiraman was sworn in on May 27, 1996. Having won nine seats in the elections, the Congress emerged as the single largest party in the 30-member House. But it did not stake its claim to form the government. Later the Lieutenant Governor invited DMK and its allies to form government. The DMK and its allies Tamil Maanila Congress and the CPI together got 15 seats. The present Ministry is the 13th in the Union Territory and DMK has got the distinction of leading all the four coalition governments in the UT.

Basu gets fifth term in West Bengal: On May 20, 1996 the Marxist leader Jyoti Basu was sworn in Chief Minister of West Bengal for a record fifth time in a row. He first became the Chief Minister in 1977 after voting Siddhartha Shankar Ray Government out of power. Basu began his active political career in 1946. After independence he wrested the Baranagore seat in 1952 and retained it till 1972 when he suffered the only defeat of his career. Thereafter he moved to Satgachia constituency which he retains.

Congress sweeps polls in J & K

THE Congress swept the polls in J&K and won the seats from Ladakh, Jammu, Baramulla and Srinagar. Udhampur seat was won by BJP. Mir Gami won the Srinagar seat by a margin of 1599 votes after a close battle with the Janata Dal candidate.

The election results debunked the theory of forced polls. Indian and foreign newspapers had reported that voters were forced to vote by the army. Though the invalid votes were somewhat higher than normal, results of a forced election were soon put at rest. It became evident that

the people of Kashmir voted for return of normalcy. Another positive indication was that terrorism had finally been controlled. There were scattered incidents of violence from the State, but the major strikes were made outside. A bomb blast killed 17 people in a crowded market in New Delhi and the JKLF claimed responsibility. Another bomb blast killed 22 people in a bus in Rajasthan.

ASSAM

Ethnic violence spreads

THE installation of Prafulla Kumar Mohanta's ministry coincided with a spurt of violence in Assam. Ethnic clashes in Kokrajhar and Bongaigaon claimed 75 lives within a week, including those of superintendent of police R.K. Singh, former minister Nagen Neog and prominent newspaper editor Parag Das. Nearly two lakh people were rendered homeless following torching of 65 villages in the Kokrajhar district. Army and paramilitary forces were deployed in the State with shoot at sight orders.

Several factors have played a role in

UNICEF Highlights Gender Bias in India

One-fourth of the 12 million girls born in India every year do not survive upto 15 years, a third of these deaths occur in the first year of life, while every sixth female death was due to discrimination. This is revealed in the UNICEF document, 'Glimpses of Girlhood in India', which points to growing gender discrimination in India, which is responsible for every 16 per cent of female deaths. Girls were also exposed to much greater risk of death than a male child.

The document also reveals that while both male and female mortality rates had declined over the years, the decline had been faster in the case of males as compared to females. Despite being biologically stronger than boys, almost 3 lakh girls die annually.

While 105 male births are reported for every 100 female births, the sex ratio gets reduced to 945, which keeps declining throughout childhood. Female infanticide and foeticide appear to be having a growing negative influence on the sex ratio in a number of communities and areas. At every age level, females had a higher death rate than males, according to the report. Despite improvement in the economy, the trends do not seem to be stopping. Only Kerala among the States had a sex ratio favouring women (1036).

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the ethnic violence against the Santhal tribals. Increasing population of non-Bodo tribals, Muslims and other migrants has led to shrinking of the land mass earlier available to the Bodo tribals. There is increasing resentment among the dominant tribal community leading to attacks by the Bodo militants on non-Bodo settlers. There is also the issue of including the villages along the 10 km border with Bhutan in the Bodoland Autonomous Council (BAC) which has not been sorted out. The All Bodo Students Union (ABSU) disowned the 1993 Bodo accord over this issue and reverted to the demand for a separate State.

The Bodos are also outnumbered by the Adivasis who constitute 30 per cent of the population and work as labourers in the tea gardens. The Bodos want them out too. There may also be political factors, as Santhalis are pro-Congress and had even put up their own candidate in the elections. Following the death of Santhali leader of the Congress party on April 30, by suspected Bodo militants, bodies of 3 Bodo girls were found outside the Sattupur reserve forest on May 8-9. This infuriated the Bodos, who began to burn down entire villages belonging to the Santhalis.

Chief Minister Mohanta faces a tough task and is hoping for a political solution. He has to fight the ethnic clashes and also keep the United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) in control. He must also implement the Assam accord but whether he will be able to remain in doubt, since his electoral allies are the communists and minority groups, who oppose the Assam agitation as well as the accord.

MAHARASHTRA

Srikrishna Commission Reinstated

AFTER four months of dissolving it, Maharashtra Government on May 28, 1996 announced the reinstatement of the

Srikrishna Commission. The Commission was set up under the chairmanship of Justice B N Srikrishna in 1993 to probe into the riots that engulfed Mumbai in December 1992 and January 1993. The Commission was initially set up for six months but repeatedly got extensions. Finally on January 23, 1996 the Maharashtra Government announced its decision to dissolve it. The government's decision was based on the perception that the continuation of the Commission may lead to some sort of communal tensions, besides its being taxing the exchequer heavily. The dissolution of the Commission evoked resentment from National Minorities Commission and various political parties. A Public Interest Petition challenging government's order was also filed in the Mumbai High Court.

TRIPURA

Insurgents threaten to deport outsiders

AFTER serving notices on January 1, 1996 the outlawed All Tripura Tiger Force (ATTF) has been building up pressure to deport the foreigners from Tripura. Showing no respect to the Indira-Mujib

Pact, they have asked people, who came to the State after 1949 but were not enlisted in the voter list of 1951, to leave the State by June 30. The ATTF has announced to launch 'Operation Raukhaly' (operation deportation) to push back foreigners from July 1, besides calling a 10-day State-wide bandh. By comparing the present demographic complexion with what it was on October 15, 1949 when Tripura merged with Indian Union, the militants stress that during 47 years, the tribal population in Tripura has declined from 90 per cent to 31 per cent while the population of Tripura has increased six times. The Left Front government in Tripura ruled out deportation of any person who came into the State before March 23, 1971.

Chief Minister and tribal leader Dasaratha Deb said that according to the Indira Mujib pact it was impossible to push back those people who came here before the stipulated date. To dispel apprehensions amongst militants, government has launched various schemes to bring them in the mainstream. It signed a bi-partite agreement with the All Tripura Tribal Force in 1993 and provided jobs to over 1000 surrendered militants.

Of the fourteen outfits in Tripura, the

India not the Most Corrupt Country

Two recent surveys on corrupt countries demolish some prevalent perceptions about corruption. Both the surveys indicate that India is not amongst the most corrupt countries. While the Gottingen University (GU) survey ranked India 46th amongst 54 countries, the Transparency International (TI) has ranked India as the seventh most corrupt in the list of 10 countries. Both surveys have been conducted by German groups.

The GU survey, which based its rating on 10 international surveys, ranked New Zealand as least corrupt and Nigeria as the most corrupt amongst 54 countries. In TI's scale ranging from 0 to 10, scores have been assigned to the countries on the basis of perceptions gathered from businessmen dealing with those countries and from the financial journalists. In the final scoring for 1995, Indonesia with a score of 1.94 has been ranked as the most corrupt nation. While China scored 2.18 and Pakistan 2.25, India with a score of 2.75 has been ranked as the seventh most corrupt country in the list.

While no country has been found to be perfect on the Transparency International scale, New Zealand with a score of 9.55 has emerged as the least corrupt in the list of 10 countries.

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National Liberation Front of Tripura and ATTf continue to be problematic. As the government prepares to check the activities of the out-fits, on May 22, 1996, the militants ambushed an army patrol and killed an officer and five jawans.

ENVIRONMENT

Petition regarding Falling Water Table

AN affidavit filed on May 15, 1996 before a division bench of the Supreme Court speaks for the critical picture of ground water level in the country. According to Dr P.C. Chaturvedi, a scientist in the Central Ground Water Board, the water table in the country has declined by eight metres between the years 1983-95. At present the shallow water is available only at depths of 48 metres. The affidavit was submitted following a public interest petition by environmentalist-lawyer M.C. Mehta, who is contesting that the Union of India and the State Governments should be directed to stop the indiscriminate digging of borewells.

INDIA-AFRICA

Interest Group Formed

THE progressively increasing cooperation between India and Africa got a boost on May 23, 1996 when an India-Africa Interest Group was formally launched at New Delhi during the seminar on "Africa-India relations: A vision for the future" coinciding with the celebration of Africa Day.

The Group will consist of representatives of African States, Governments of both sides and Indian industry, the federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The Interest Group will enlarge the scope of economic ties between the two regions in turnkey projects, development of energy, manufacturing and agriculture.

ISRAEL

Netanyahu wins election

IN a close contest, the Likud Party leader Benjamin Netanyahu won the historic election in Israel. Opposition leader Netanyahu defeated Prime Minister Peres by just over 29,000 votes, out of the three million cast.

On May 29, 1996 Israeli voters for the first time exercised their franchise to directly elect the Israeli Prime Minister. Earlier the Prime Minister was appointed by the President.

Shimon Peres was one of the architects of the peace process who negotiated with the Palestinians and Jordan over the past four years. He promised to end a century old Arab-Israeli conflict and had shared the Nobel peace prize for his efforts. By returning some territories to Palestine, his plan came to be known as the "land for peace" accord. Many Israelis resented the deal, since Israel was prepared to give up more land captured in the 1967 West Asia war. Netanyahu projected West Asian peace as a dangerous mirage and vowed to build new Jewish settlements in the West Bank, not to return the Golan Heights to Syria and also block the creation of the Palestinian State. The final results suggest that the lead that Peres had got after the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin vanished after Hamas suicide bombers claimed over 50 lives in bombings in Israel. The results show how deeply Israelis are divided over the peace negotiations.

Apprehension in Arab World: PLO chairman Yasser Arafat urged Israel not to renege on peace pact. The US President Bill Clinton, who supported Peres, expressed his commitment to continue working with the Government of Israel for the cause of peace. On June 1, soon after his election, Netanyahu said that in his first 100 days in office he would reassess the Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations and put on hold any further talks with Syria and Lebanon.

Apprehension has gripped the Arab world since Netanyahu's victory, particularly on his campaign promise to take a hard line in peace talks. Syrian President Hafez Assad went to Egypt for talks with Hosni Mubarak on June 3, even as Netanyahu gave a conciliatory speech in Jerusalem. While he said that talks with PLO would continue, the chances that such talks could succeed seem dimmed. He has already pledged to prevent establishment of a Palestinian State and to give troops freer hand in operating in PLO areas.

In a rally on June 3, however, Mr Netanyahu called on Israel's Arab neighbours to "join the circle of peace", thus allaying fears about the direction of his Hawkish government.

"We intend to further the process of dialogue with all neighbours to reach a stable peace, a real peace, a peace with security", he said.

UN Report indicts Israel on Qana incident: The Israeli war against Hizbullah guerillas got out of hand when on April 18, 1996, it bombed a UN post and slaughtered more than 100 Lebanese refugees, wounding at least 100 others. That would have been forgivable if it was an accident.

India is the Eighth Safest Country

According to a survey on Crime and Personal Security conducted by the Hong Kong-based Political and Economic Risk Consultancy, India is the eighth safest country amongst the 12 Asian countries in the safety measuring scale ranging from 0 to 10. Singapore with a score of 1.25 has emerged as the safest Asian country and Philippines with a score of 2.25 has been rated as the most unsafe country. India with a rating of 4.75 has emerged as eighth safest country in Asia.

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But questions have persisted whether it was done deliberately.

A UN report, released on May 7, 1996, has rejected Israeli version that it had shelled the UN compound in Lebanon by mistake. From the beginning Israel has maintained that it had no idea of any civilian being there in the UN compound. The report took cognizance of the positioning of Hizbollah guerrillas and also noted evidence suggesting some blemishes even on the part of UN peacekeepers. It also admitted that two or three Hizbollah fighters had entered the UN compound.

The report was vehemently criticized by the USA and Israel. While USA asserted that the report draws unjustified conclusions, Israel demanded explanation to why the UN did not take any measures against Hizbollah terrorists entering the compound.

IRAQ

UN allows Iraq to sell oil

AFTER four rounds of talks, Iraq finally accepted UN's oil-for-food offer. Under the agreement, Iraq will be allowed to sell its oil for the first time since sanctions were imposed on it after its invasion of Kuwait in 1990. Iraq will sell \$ 1 billion worth oil every 90 days to buy food and medicine. It has been facing severe shortages of these items, following economic embargo imposed by the Security Council five years ago. In case the scheme is extended over a year, Iraq would be able to sell oil worth \$ 4 billion. Out of it, 30 per cent of the amount would go as compensation to the victims of the Iraqi aggression of Kuwait.

Iraq's U.N. Ambassador Hazar Hamdoun on May 20, 1996 announced his country's acceptance of the deal which was being negotiated since many months. The talks had often got suspended as the US had been asserting that the Security

Council's resolution of providing \$ 2.7 billion for food and medicines sufficiently met Iraq's requirement.

TURKEY

Çiller's party pulls out

FORMER premier Tansu Çiller's party (True Path) pulled out of Turkey's ruling coalition on May 5, 1996. The government's collapse is expected to give a boost to the pro-Islamic Welfare Party, whose policy has worried Turkey's Western allies. Welfare opposes Turkey's Western looking policies but failed to get a majority in Parliament. It wants an Islamic regime and closer ties with Muslim nations. Çiller faces corruption probes based on allegations by Welfare

UAE

New Constitution approved

SINCE its formation in 1971, United Arab Emirates has been governed by a provisional constitution. It was initially valid for five years, but the government continued to extend its validity. After living for twenty-five years with a provisional constitution, on May 20, 1996 UAE took a major step towards having its permanent Constitution when its Federal Supreme Council approved the draft of new constitution. The Supreme Council consist of the rulers of Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Fujairah, Ras-al-Khaimah, Umm-al-Quwain and Ajman. The Council approved Abu Dhabi as the permanent Capital of UAE instead of Karama mentioned in the provisional constitution

AFGHANISTAN

Peace Accord Signed

TWO months after getting an offer from President Burhanuddin Rabbani, former Prime Minister and erstwhile foe Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, head of the Hezb-e-

Islami, on May 25, 1996 signed an agreement to restore peace in war-torn Afghanistan.

The six-point agreement calls for cessation of hostilities, establishment of an Islamic government, setting up of a national Islamic army and formation of an interim government to conduct elections.

Later, on May 29, the factions resolved that till elections were held, the interim government would be controlled by the Hezb-e-Islami and President Rabbani. While Rabbani would continue to hold the office of President, Hekmatyar would be Afghanistan's Prime Minister. It was also resolved that Hekmatyar's Hezb-e-Islami faction would take control of Afghanistan's Defence and Finance Ministry. With Afghanistan's Hezb-e-Islami faction joining government forces, the defence of Afghanistan from the Taliban has got a new boost. The Pakistani-backed Taliban militia had rejected the agreement and said that they would continue their struggle for an Islamic State.

RUSSIA

Ceasefire Accord signed in Chechnya

AFTER 18 months of hostilities, Russian President Boris Yeltsin signed an agreement with Chechen separatist leader Zelim Khan Yandarbiyev on May 27, 1996. The agreement envisages an end to hostilities in Chechnya and exchange of all prisoners of war. It came into effect from June 1, 1996.

The agreement is seen as a desperate move initiated by President Yeltsin for achieving peace in Chechnya, before the presidential elections scheduled for June 16. He is in a close contest with communist challenger Gennady Zygunav. Immediately after signing the agreement, Yeltsin visited Chechnya to give a boost to his campaign. On his first visit to the embattled republic, he conceded that he had

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committed political blunders while tackling Chechnya crisis.

The conflict has raged since December 1994, when President Yeltsin sent Russian forces to Chechnya to crush the drive for independence. More than 30,000 lives have been lost in the conflict and more than half a million have been rendered homeless. The agreement, however, covers only the logistics of military disengagement and leaves aside the thorny problem of Chechnya's political status. Yeltsin says he will not accept an independent Chechnya while Yandarbiyev is equally adamant that Chechnya will not submit to rule from Moscow.

Russia alleges spying by British diplomats

ON May 6, 1996 Russia claimed to have unearthed a spy scandal involving British diplomats and ordered their expulsion. Britain warned Russia of retaliation. The British media linked the spy row to the exigencies of electoral politics as Russia is having a presidential election in June.

Recent revelations, rated as the biggest East-West espionage row since the end of cold war, threatened relations between the two countries. Last moment arrangements succeeded in defusing tensions and both Britain and Russia shelved the expulsions.

CHINA

US extends MFN status, prevents trade war

ON May 21, 1996, US President Bill Clinton decided to extend the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status to China for another year. He said that denial of the status, which was to expire on June 3, would have amounted to severing economic ties and would have harmed America's interests. The US wanted China to stop factories involved in piracy of music and software but decided that the

issue would not be mixed up with that of the piracy. After the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre, the US Congress had stipulated that the MFN treaty would have to be renewed every year in order to allow a review of its human rights progress. During his election campaign, Clinton had sought to link MFN to human rights in China, but after assuming office shelved.

The MFN status was renewed after threats of a trade war between the two countries. Sino-US talks had earlier broken down as USA said that China was not doing enough to prevent piracy of US music and software, causing huge loss to American businesses. Threats of US sanctions got the response of immediate retaliation from China. Though the US later backed out, China committed not to provide assistance to unsafeguarded nuclear programmes to any country.

Improved ties with Taiwan: Lee Teng-hui was sworn in as Taiwan's first popularly elected president on May 20, 1996 and offered to meet China's leaders for talks on ending 47 years of hostility. To achieve this, he offered to visit China as a journey of peace. He ruled out making Taiwan an independent country and said that reunification with China was a desirable goal. Observers feel that relations between Taiwan and China are on the mend. On both sides, the tone is of reconciliation and peace.

TIBET

Tibetans protest against Chinese methods

IN May, China resorted to the harshest of measures since 1989 to suppress sentiments of independence in Tibetans. On May 19, 1996, Chinese security forces injured as many as 80 Tibetans as they protested against China's ban on photographs of their spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama. China has banned rebuilding of monasteries destroyed during the cultural revolution and limited

the number of monks and nuns in monasteries. This is widely resented by Tibetans and has led to frequent clashes with Chinese troops. Independence sentiment remains strong in Tibet despite China's 46 years of often brutal rule of the Himalayan region.

China admits holding Panchen Lama: On June 1, 1996, China admitted, for the first time, that it was holding a seven year old boy named by the Dalai Lama as one of Tibet's most revered spiritual leaders. The boy, Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, had disappeared shortly after the exiled Dalai Lama recognised him as the 11th Panchen Lama in May, 1995. Beijing decided to repudiate the Dalai Lama's choice and name its own Panchen Lama as a sign of its ultimate authority over Tibet.

BANGLADESH

Army Chief Sacked

IN a dramatic action on May 20, 1996 Bangladesh's acting President Abdur Rahman Biswas sacked Army Chief Lt General Abu Saleh Mohammad Nasim. The sacking came in the wake of Gen Nasim's defiance to execute the President's orders to fire two commanders allegedly having political ambitions and inciting soldiers against the government.

The sacked army chief, along with the six commanders who backed the revolt, was placed under house arrest and will face military trial. Maj Gen Mahbubur Rahman has been appointed as the new acting Army Chief. A five-member military court has been set up to try the dismissed commanders. They face charges including those of sedition and deception.

Pro-Nasim officers and troops who came out of their garrisons were stopped by troops and sent back with the assurance that no legal action would be taken against them. Tanks patrolled the streets of Dhaka but no incident was reported.

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MYANMAR

Pro-democracy movement gains ground

AFTER ten months of near silence, Myanmar's pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi stepped up the campaign for restoration of democracy in the country. Suu Kyi, who is the leader of the National League for Democracy (NLD), announced a three-day Congress to commemorate the sixth anniversary of her party's sweeping victory in the 1990 elections. To thwart her efforts, military government in Myanmar launched a massive crackdown and rounded up more than 250 NLD activists. The arrests invited sharp criticism from Japan and the USA.

Despite the detentions, on May 26, Suu Kyi inaugurated the conference in Yangon. The Congress ended with a series of resolutions, including drawing up a new draft Constitution. Suu Kyi has sought world-wide support to pressurize military regime in Myanmar to recognize the results of the 1990 elections, in which the NLD swept 82 per cent of the 485 seats. The State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) had not recognised the poll outcome.

Myanmar's military rulers resorted to holding public meetings and making comments in the official media to counter the threat posed by Suu Kyi. The military rulers cannot take strong action as it would invite international condemnation and withdrawal of aid. Suu Kyi appealed to Japan to stop aiding the Myanmar military rulers as the aid money did not help ordinary people but only supported the military rule.

With the conference, her first important gathering since her release last July from six years of house arrest, Suu Kyi has launched an all out crusade against the military junta. Lt Gen Khin Nyunt, leader of the SLORC, denounced the meet-

ing and accused the USA and western nations of destabilising Myanmar.

PAKISTAN

Bhutto's Sweden visit

AMIDST hopes of registering it as a turning-point in the Swedish-Pak relations, Benazir Bhutto visited Sweden in May end—the first visit by a Pakistan Prime Minister in 20 years. Contrary to expectations, the visit ended up as an exercise in futility. She was received by the Employment minister as the Prime Minister was said to be busy in a summit. The formal meeting with the Swedish Prime Minister Goran Persson was curtailed from 90 minutes to 40.

Bhutto's agenda revolved around three important items: to invite Swedish investment into Pakistan, to highlight Pakistan's version of situation in Kashmir and to buy arms. On all the three issues, Pakistan failed to muster the desired attention of Sweden and got a cool response from the hosts. Newspapers mentioned the embarrassment caused by a shipment required by Pakistan's nuclear establishment from Sweden in 1995 which was detained at Heathrow and sent back. Sweden also could not sell the fighters required by Pakistan as they had American engines and required US consent to effect a sale. Though Pakistan's Defence Minister Aftab Merani was member of the delegation, he was not even received by his Swedish counterpart Thage G. Petersson.

Pakistan snubbed on Kashmir issue: Pakistan continues to raise the Kashmir issue at international forums, often to get snubbed. It happened in Singapore in September 1994 and in the United Nations in November 1995. The experience was repeated once again, this time in USA.

During the Symposium on SAARC at Washington on May 18, 1996, Maleeha Lodhi, Pakistan's Ambassador to USA, made another attempt to raise the Kashmir issue. The Indian Minister for Com-

munity Affairs, Wajahat Habibullah, took exception to Pakistan's act. Lodhi's act earned her another rebuff from Robin Raphel, American Assistant Secretary of State. She rejected Pakistan's contention that the SAARC cannot do much unless and until the Kashmir issue was solved. The symposium focused on the economic integration and the implicit benefits from economic liberalisation.

USA

Clinton's business partners convicted

PRESIDENT Clinton faced a major blow as three of his former business partners were convicted of fraud. Clinton was hoping that the judgement in the Whitewater property scandal would not come before the election day.

All three defendants, James and Susan McDougal and Jim Guy Tucker, governor of Arkansas, were convicted in the venture that has come to be known as Whitewater case. The McDougal were partners of Clintons in the failed Whitewater project. The charges involve running a scheme to defraud government backed financial institutions of \$ 3 million. The jury deliberated for eight days before convicting the three defendants, despite the President's videotaped testimony as the star witness for the defence. First Lady Hillary Clinton had also appeared in person before a federal grand jury concerning the scandal. The conviction of Clinton's ex-partners is likely to hurt President Clinton's re-election, scheduled for November 20, 1996.

UK

Major retaliates on beef ban

INFURIATED by the continued ban on British beef due to the mad cow disease, Prime Minister John Major threatened re-

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taliatory actions. Major made an announcement to this effect in the House of Commons, which came in the wake of Britain's defeat on May 20, 1996 at the Conference of European Union Veterinary which voted for a continued ban of the British beef.

The ban is looked upon as a German-inspired plot to destroy the Britain beef industry. Despite persuasion, including the efforts of the Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi, Britain stood by its stand. As part of its non-cooperation, on May 28, Britain blocked a dozen European Union measures.

UNITED NATIONS

Treaty to restrict use of land mines

ACCORDING to estimates, about 25,000 persons are killed or maimed by landmines explosions every year. Many of the victims are children, who lose their limbs and are crippled for life. For long, the world has seen the agony of victims and now finally the world is doing something about it.

Amid criticism from some of the members and international humanitarian organisations, the United Nations, on May 3, 1996, adopted a new treaty to restrict the use of landmines. The main provisions of the treaty include banning of non-detectable anti-personnel mines in favour of self-destructing and self-deactivating mines. It demands that all mines contain at least eight gms of iron or equivalent to make them detectable. As regards remotely delivered mines, the treaty requires their destruction within 30 days and sets 120 days for their self-deactivating. The treaty will be extended to national as well as international conflicts.

The existing large stockpiles of non-detectable mines by few countries has delayed the implementation of the treaty. India criticised the restrictive implications of the treaty as also its legitimizing the

use of 'smart' mines.

HEALTH

Smallpox eradicated

DELEGATES from 190 countries at the 49th World Health Assembly unanimously decided to destroy the existing stocks of smallpox (Variola) virus. The recent orders of WHO to two research centres in Russia and US to destroy remaining stocks of smallpox virus are claimed as the final step to mark the eradication of the deadly disease from the Earth. Less than 30 years ago, smallpox was endemic in 30 countries and used to claim 2 million lives every year.

On May 8, 1980 the WHO declared war for global eradication of smallpox and in March 1986 a WHO committee recommended the elimination of the remaining stocks. WHO will, however, keep 500,000 doses of the vaccine.

SOUTH AFRICA

New Constitution causes political split

WITH an overwhelming majority, South Africa's Constitutional Assembly adopted a new Constitution on May 8, 1996. While the Zulu Nationalist Inkatha Freedom Party had boycotted the Constitutional Assembly, the Afrikaner Nationalist Freedom Front abstained on ratification vote.

The new post-apartheid constitution provides for equal rights and majority rule. Its Bill of Rights guarantees the right to adequate housing, food, water, education and health care. It bans discrimination on the basis of race, gender, sexual orientation, age, pregnancy or marital status. The new Constitution replaces the transitional Constitution that came into force after April, 1994 elections. It will take effect gradually over the next three years and will come into force fully with the next

national elections in 1999.

A deadlock prevailed between the ruling African National Congress and the National Party, which ran apartheid for over four decades. The deadlock on three clauses pertaining to education, property and lock-outs, threatened to jeopardize the two-year-old democratic process in South Africa. However, hectic negotiations led to a compromise between the two.

Immediately after adoption of the new constitution, leader of the National Party F.W. deKlerk announced his decision to withdraw from President Nelson Mandela's government of National Unity. While Mandela's African National Congress maintains majority in the 490-seat Parliament, it needed the support of the National Party to get the two-thirds majority necessary to approve the constitution. As the new constitution envisages majority rule and provides no scope for a coalition, deKlerk announced his decision to head into opposition. To give Mandela time to appoint successors and ensure an orderly transition, he announced that withdrawal of National Party will come into effect from June 30, 1996.

UGANDA

Museveni re-elected

ON May 9, 1996, Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni, won the election for another five years. He received more than 50 per cent of the eight million votes. The Opposition leader Paul Seemogerere, who secured about 24 per cent votes, alleged widespread fraud in the elections. Diplomats and international election observations did report some minor irregularities at the polls but they acknowledged that these were too small to change the outcome. Yoweri Museveni has been President since winning a five-year bush war in 1986. He has been credited with an African economic success.

Current General Knowledge

ABBREVIATION

WOMEC World Mining Environment Congress

AWARDS

National Film Awards

Best feature film (Swarna Kamal): Malayalam film *Kathapurushan* directed by Adoor Gopalakrishnan.

Best film in Hindi: *Bandit Queen*

Best English language film: *The Making of the Mahatma*

Nargis Dutt Award for National Integration: *Bombay* directed by Mani Ratnam
Film giving popular and wholesome entertainment: *Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge* directed by Aditya Chopra.

Best non-feature film: *Tarana*, a documentary film on mystic music directed by Rajat Kapoor

Best film on environment: *Rape in the Virgin Forest* by Jwngdao Bodosa in Bodo.

Indira Gandhi Award for best film of a director: Malaya Bhattacharya's *Kahini* in Bengali

Best children's film: *Halo* directed by Santosh Sivan

Best Actress: Seema Biswas for her performance in *Bandit Queen*

Best Actor: Rajit Kapoor for his performance in *The Making of the Mahatma*.

Best Director: Saeed Akhtar Mirza.

Best supporting role: Mithun Chakraborty for his role of Ramakrishna Paramhans in the first part of the film *Swami Vivekananda*, and Aranmula Ponnamma for *Kathapurushan*

Special jury award: Shyam Benegal, director of *The Making of the Mahatma*

Best playback singers: S.P. Balasubramanyam and Anjali Marathe

Best costume design: Dolly Ahluwalia in *Bandit Queen*.

Best Book: *Marathi Cinema* by Sanjit Narwekar.

V. Shantaram State Award

VETERAN actress Lalita Pawar has been selected for the V. Shantaram State Award for her lifetime contribution to Marathi films. The award carries a cash prize of Rs 1 lakh and a memento

Honest Man of the Year Award

FORMER Finance Minister Manmohan Singh has been selected by Sulabh International as the 'Honest Man of the Year Award 1996'. The award consists of Rs 5 lakhs, a gold plaque, a gold medal and a citation.

DEFENCE

Garhwal Rifles Complete 25 years

THE 12th battalion of the Garhwal Rifles celebrated its silver jubilee on June 1. The Battalion was raised on June 1, 1971, at Kotwara, in Garhwal in Uttar Pradesh. The Garhwal Rifles earned itself an enviable reputation due to its feats and achievements during the times of war and peace.

Within a couple of months of its inception, the battalion was moved to the Eastern Theatre and deployed for the defence of airfields and radar installations at Bagdogra, Hashimara and Cooch Bihar in West Bengal

After the liberation of Bangladesh, the battalion was moved to Malaut in Punjab, where it stayed upto July 1973

Navy's first sub passes into history

INDIAN Navy's first submarine, INS *Kalvari*, and the first indigenously built frigate, INS *Nilgiri*, passed into history and were decommissioned at Visakhapatnam and Bombay dockyards, respectively, on June 1, 1996.

During its service of 28 years, *Kalvari*, commissioned in Riga on December 8, 1967, accomplished many arduous tasks and trained young submariners.

Nilgiri was the first Indian-built ma-

jor warship which could carry a helicopter and missiles and was commissioned on June 3, 1972. India took an epoch-making leap forward in the sophisticated art of modern warship production when *Nilgiri*, the first of the six leander class frigates, was built by Mazagon Dock Ltd, Bombay.

Subsequent construction of *Godavari* and *Khukri* class frigates in the 1980s and the on-going *Delhi* and *Brahmaputra* class projects represent the technological advancement that India had made in the field of warship construction

EXPEDITION

Everest Filming Expedition

JAMLING Norgay, grand son of the first Everest summiteer, Tenzing Norgay, scaled the world's highest peak, along with a film crew, on May 24, 1996. Thirty-one year old Jamling's was part of a seven-member Everest Imax filming expedition.

David Finlay Breashears, a 41-year old film maker and Edmund Karl Viesturs (37), from Seattle, both scaling the peak for the third time, were part of the Imax team.

Other members were film maker Hans Robert Schauer (43) of Austria and 26-year old Aracet Segarra Roca from Spain.

First SA team atop Mt Everest

THE South African flag was planted atop Mount Everest for the first time ever on May 26, 1996, when two Johannesburg climbers reached the summit of the world's highest mountain.

Two members of the team, leader Ian Woodall and Cathy O'Dowd, climbed the peak. Veteran Sherpa guide, Ang Rita, 48, of Nepal climbed the peak, along with them. All of them climbed without using oxygen cylinders.

Tragedy on Everest

ON the night of May 10, 1996 the great mountain, Mt Everest, (height 8,848 m) once again showed its hunger for human life. A sudden storm claimed lives of more than eight climbers, including two of the world's highly respected mountaineers: Scott Fisher of USA and Rob Hall of New Zealand. Three members of the Indo-Tibet Border Police expedition also died. The Indian climbers were T. Palior, T. Samamla and Dorje Murup.

All together, more than 150 climbers in 13 expeditions had gathered at Base camps at the foot of Everest before the storm hit. They carried oxygen in state-of-the-art titanium bottles, wore six layers of space-age thermal clothing designed to protect at temperatures lower than -30°C, hand-held radios, satellite phones and computers. The adventurers could even call home and send E-mail from the summit. However, despite all the technology and hi-tech the mountain proved to be more powerful.

Amid death and chaos, there were miracles too: Beck Weathers of USA survived a night at the base of Mt Everest, so did Makalu Gau of Taiwan.

However, both were unable to descent through a treacherous ice fall, due to severe frostbite. In a daring mission, Lt Col K.C. Madan of Nepal Air Force rescued the two mountaineers in one of the highest helicopter rescues ever, from a height of 6,100 m.

CYBER SPACE

Cyber commerce is here

THE hottest trend in information technology today—cyber commerce—is the ultimate dream of marketing professionals. It offers shops that never close, allows suppliers and customers to interact without any middle-men, lowers overheads and provides gratification on demand.

Because it can handle a variety of data including video, text and audio, the Universal Server has emerged a key factor in targeting cyber commerce. In an application powered by it, it's possible to rent a car directly from a multimedia 'vending machine' at an airport or a railway station,

choosing from the available models and colours, making the payment via a credit card and have the keys drop through a slot.

Such multimedia kiosks can be placed literally anywhere to allow customers to purchase merchandise on-line. The kiosks can take the shape of a Website, hawking anything from CDs to TVs.

PERSONS

Gowda, Haradanahalli Dodde Deve

SWORN in as India's 12th Prime Minister, H.D. Deve Gowda was born into an agriculturist family at Haradanahalli in Hasan district in Karnataka. He has a diploma in civil engineering and worked as a contractor before entering politics. He made it to the Legislative Assembly in 1962. Five more terms in the Assembly made him into a seasoned politician. Initially with the Congress, he went over to Congress (O) when the party split vertically. As an Opposition leader, he went to jail during the Emergency.

Gowda has proved to be a good administrator and being a "mannina maga" (son of the soil), he is known for his pro-farmer policies.

Sangma, Purno A.

SPEAKER of the 11th Lok Sabha, P.A. Sangma is a Christian tribal from the Garo hills of Meghalaya. He rose from a secretary of the Meghalaya Pradesh Youth Congress to become the consensus candidate for the post of Speaker, in a little over 20 years. Sangma, 48, was a lecturer, lawyer and journalist before joining politics. He first came to Parliament in 1977 and has been elected for the fifth time.

He is the first tribal and the youngest to be elevated to become the Speaker. He has held several posts, including Labour Minister and Information and Broadcasting Minister.

Tulsamma

A wealthy landowner who gave up her riches to use her life to help the poor, Tulsamma, 85, lives as a legend in Pedaravur in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh. Born in 1911, Tulsamma was married to a landowner but when she failed to bear any children, she found

another bride for her husband. When the freedom struggle began, she met Gandhiji in Sevagram Ashram and decided to live a life of austerity. Her later meeting with Vinoba Bhave made her determined to devote her life in helping the poor.

She became a freedom fighter and participated in the non-cooperation movement and was imprisoned for 16 months. After independence, she returned to her native village and continuing Gandhiji's philosophy, she donated her huge property to the Andhra Pradesh Khadi and Village Industries Board. Her former house is today a khadi production centre. Tulsamma continues to spread Gandhiji's message through her simple way of living and spinning her modern *charkha*.

Vajpayee, Atal Behari

THE country's 11th Prime Minister who stayed in office for only 12 days, Vajpayee is known for his liberal views. Born in Gwalior in 1924, he became a social worker in 1948. Arrested in 1942 during the freedom struggle, he continued as an RSS worker after his release. The 72-year old bachelor is one of the few political leaders who is not under dark clouds tarnishing his image.

RESEARCH

New way to rejuvenate rivers

SCIENTISTS in Ahmedabad have evolved a novel strategy to rejuvenate rivers and other surface water bodies which have seen drop in water levels in the recent past.

Heavy water withdrawal due to rapid growth in population and industrial activity and highly seasonal rainfall have driven the ground water table in the country to an all time low, warranting immediate steps to reverse the trend.

Two hydrologists from the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), and a non-governmental water resources research foundation, both in Ahmedabad, have mooted a new concept. The key element of this new water management system, called *Akshayadhara*, is the manipulation of existing or newly-created shallow aquifers to facilitate transmission of domestic wastewater, wasted otherwise, to surface

water bodies through ground water flow, maintaining their pristine water quality perennially.

The scientists contend that wastewater emanating from household, after proper purification, can be diverted to specially created percolation wells dug near surface water bodies. The water collected in the percolation well, which is a modified form of commonly used soak pit, filters down to the nearby water body and in the process eliminates remaining unwanted objects present in the water.

The water management system is cost-effective as all cities and townships in the country have a fairly good sewage system that can be readily made use of.

Purple bananas

PURPLE bananas, blue apples and yellow tomatoes may soon become quite common. This has become possible with the discovery of genes that control the smell, taste and colour of the fruits.

Different coloured skins could be used to show buyers that fruit had been genetically engineered to contain extra vitamins, medicines or nutrients.

Research at Nottingham University, where Dr Don Grierson, professor of plant physiology, and his team have identified 25 genes that control different aspects of fruit ripening, including colour and texture, has opened new possibilities in fruit farming that range from medicine to economics. Limiting the gene's ability to make the hormones could help overcome the problem that rots half the world's produced food before it reaches the market.

The research team spent 13 years studying how fruit can be used to fight diseases. The modified fruit could be particularly important for those with a limited diet, because the high vitamin content of one kind of fruit could be transferred to another.

The genetic enhancement could also mean less fertilizer might be needed and certain crops could grow faster.

SPACE

Cola wars in space

COLA wars entered the Space Age as Russian cosmonauts filmed a commercial with a giant can of Pepsi and US as-

tronauts aboard the shuttle Endeavour tested a Coca-Cola dispenser.

While Russian cosmonauts posed outside the Mir space station with a 4-foot tall, 2-foot diameter replica of a new-style Pepsi can, astronauts aboard shuttle Endeavour struggled with a Coca-Cola dispenser, which lacked fizz.

Pepsi Co Inc paid a seven-figure sum to have Russian cosmonauts film the commercial, during a five-hour, 20-minute spacewalk on May 17, 1996.

The shuttle astronauts, meanwhile, battled with a Coca-Cola dispenser on that sputtered, leaked and failed to fill their zero-gravity drinking bags.

The experience was flat for both space crews. The Russians had no Pepsi to drink, only the giant replica and two empty cans, while the shuttle crew was left with only non-carbonated beverages.

Optical satellites being developed

AFTER fibre optical cables that revolutionised terrestrial communication, it is now the turn of satellites to go optical. Now Japan plans to put the world's first experimental optical communications satellite in orbit.

Compared to their traditional counterparts that use radio waves, optical satellites receive and transmit signals at ultra-high speed.

Optical satellites that employ laser beams will have much smaller space-borne payloads and will give better quality signals as they interfere little with other communication signals.

The National Space Agency of Japan (NASA) has joined forces with the European Space Agency (ESA) in testing its Optical Inter-Orbit Communications Engineering Satellite (OICETS).

Endeavour returns after 10-day mission

ENDEAVOUR completed a 10-day scientific mission that released an inflated giant antenna and grew pure crystals in space. Scientists were pleased with Endeavour's accomplishments, terming the mission a complete success.

A day after launch, Endeavour's crew released a satellite that carried a giant inflatable foil antenna. The antenna, which

was folded into a box the size of a kitchen table, was blown up to the size of a tennis court, once free of Endeavour.

The US Space Agency NASA is interested in inflatable antennas, sun shades and other space structures because they would be lighter, more reliable and less expensive to launch than mechanical craft.

MISCELLANY

Indian cities face explosion

FOUR Indian cities—Delhi, Bombay, Bangalore and Hyderabad—will be among the megacities that will mushroom in an unprecedented urban explosion in the developing world, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFP) has predicted.

Within 10 years, more than half the people in the world will live in cities and nearly all the urban population increase will be in developing countries.

The urban future carries with it many risks, such as the possibility of collapse of basic services, intolerable environmental degradation and escalating social conflict.

The growth rate of "megacities" is changing. While megacities in the developed world grew, on an average, by less than one per cent, those in the developing world, including Bombay, Karachi, Lagos and Dhaka grew by 3.7 to 7.6 per cent.

Developing countries will account for nearly 93 per cent of a 2.06 billion increase in the global urban population from 1970 to 2020. Much of this growth will be in the world's poorest countries, and many of the new urban dwellers, particularly women and children, will be among the poorest people in the world.

Compared to 1950 when there were 83 cities with populations of more than a million, today there are more than 280 and the number is expected to double by 2015.

Recent developments point to increased risks in urban areas: from pollution and other environmental factors, emergence of new diseases and quicker spread of old ones, reappearance of more virulent or drug-resistant strains of pathogens, and lower investment in public health sector. Acute respiratory infections, tuberculosis and other air-borne infections are a major source of death and illness in urban areas.

SPORTS

GAMES

National Games Mascot

THE official mascot for the 4th National Games, to be held in Bangalore and Mysore, is Nandu, derived from the celestial bull, Nandi. It was unveiled in Bangalore marking formal start of preparation for the sporting event.

BADMINTON

Uber Cup

INDONESIA retained the Uber Cup women's world team badminton championship title, beating China 3-1. Indonesia took the Cup for a record sixth time and it was their second straight win over China.

Thomas Cup

WORLD champion Heryanto Arbi of Indonesia beat Denmark's Thomas Stuer-Lauridsen to give his country a 3-0 lead in the final of the Thomas Cup men's team badminton championship played at Hong Kong.

CRICKET

Record eleven catches behind the wickets WAYNE James, captain and wicket keeper of Matabeleland in Zimbabwe, held 11 catches in a match and did two stumpings to break the world record for dismissals behind the stumps in a first class match.

The old record of 12 dismissals was set by Ted Pooley who had 8 catches and 4 stumpings to his credit.

India-England One-day series

ENGLAND beat India 2-0 in the three-match Texaco Trophy one-day series played in England. The first one-dayer was abandoned due to rain while the second was won by England by six wickets.

FOOTBALL

McDowell Cup

MOHUN Bagan beat East Bengal 2-0 to win the McDowell Football Cup played at Calcutta.

UEFA Cup

BAYERN Munich won the UEFA Cup by beating Bordeaux 3-1 to take their first international title in 20 years. The match was played in Bordeaux.

European Cup

JUVENTUS won the European Soccer Cup when they beat holders Ajax Amsterdam 4-2 in a penalty shootout in Rome.

Mascot for 1998 World Cup

FRANCE has selected a rooster dressed in blue as its mascot for the 1998 Soccer World Cup. The unnamed animal was chosen from 6 designs that were submitted.

HOCKEY

Sultan Azlan Shah Cup

ASIAN champions South Korea beat Australia 4-2 in the final of the six-nation 7th Sultan Azlan Shah Cup hockey tournament played at Ipoh in Malaysia. It was Korea's first Cup triumph after a fifth place in 1987 and sixth in 1991.

MOTOR SPORTS

FIA Formula Asia International

INDIA'S Narain Karthikeyan has been adjudged the best Asian driver in the 1996 FIA Formula Asia International motor racing series, third and fourth rounds, held at Shah Alam in Malaysia.

SNOOKER

World Snooker Championship

STEPHEN Hendry won his sixth world championship with an 18-12 victory over Peter Ebdon. It was his fifth title in a row.

He has now equalled the record of 6 world crowns by Ray Reardon and Steve Davis

TENNIS

Italian Open

SPAIN'S Conchita Martinez won her fourth straight title by beating Martina Hingis 6-2, 6-3 in the final of the clay court tournament.

Graf sets a record

STEFFI Graf set a record of 332 weeks as women's world no. 1 in the latest rankings released by WTA Tour. She first grabbed the no. 1 spot on August 17, 1987, ending Navratilova's reign. Only six women have captured the top spot since computer rankings began in 1975—Graf, Monica Seles, Navratilova, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, Chris Evert and Tracy Austin.

In the men's tour, Jimmy Connors was ranked No. 1 for 268 weeks, John McEnroe for 170 and Pete Sampras for 121 weeks

World Team Cup

OLYMPIC champion Marc Rosset steered Switzerland to their first World Team Cup title with a 2-1 victory over the Czech Republic.

WEIGHTLIFTING

World Women's Weightlifting Championship

CRPF inspector N. Kunjarani Devi and Sanamacha Chanu of Manipur bagged 6 medals including 5 silvers for India in the 10th World Women's Weightlifting championship held in Warsaw.

India's defending champion Karnam Malleswari failed to retain her title and finished third. She could get only three bronze medals. Jeevan Jyothi finished eighth in the 64-kg category. The Indian weightlifters could only collect 126 points compared to 232 they had collected in the last championship.

Question Box

Q. I would like to do a course in export management. Please guide me.

—Munish Kumar, Samalkha (Haryana)

A. You can do any of the courses offered by Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi. Apart from full time courses, there are also workshops of short duration. Certain other institutes offer export courses by correspondence. You can select from among those available.

Q. I would like to do a course in catering after my schooling. Please let me know how should I apply for it.

—Radhika Rane, Mumbai

A. You should apply for a Bachelor of Hotel Management and catering course when you are in 12th. For addresses of institutes, look at our 'Admissions Alert' column. Most institutes have entrance examinations, so you should prepare for these. Mostly Maths, English and reasoning is asked. You will find *Competition Master* very useful for this, as also the books published by Khanna Brothers.

Q. Which are the good colleges offering the BBS course?

—Pankaj Kumar, Jaipur

A. It depends on your definition of a 'good' college. You can go by suitability, reputation or how close they are to where you stay. Look out for ads in the newspapers and you can compile your own list. Some colleges are also featured in our 'Admissions Alert' column.

Q. We know that meteors burn due to air friction when they enter the earth's atmosphere. Why don't parachutes burn out too?

—Vikrant Gupta, Nahan (HP)

A. The speed of the meteors, which have been travelling in space for a very

long time, is so great that air particles strike with it and generate heat. In the case of a parachute, the speed is not that great since the fall begins within the earth's atmosphere. Heat generated by friction is therefore not so huge that a fire can result.

Q. I could not appear in an entrance test as its dates were clashing with the test of another institute. How can I get my money back?

—Saurabh Bhatnagar, Panchkula (Haryana)

A. You can write to the institute and hope for the best. There is nothing much you can do if they do not respond.

Q. Explain the achievements of the Indian Space Programme.

—Biman Banerjee, Sodepur (W.B.)

A. Refer to our Cover Story in the *Competition Master* of December 1995 issue. You will find a detailed answer to your question.

Q. I would like to do a course from National School of Banking. Please tell me how I can join it.

—Archana Agarwal, Lakhimpur Kheri (UP)

A. Please write to: National School of Banking, Indian Education Society Campus, Ash Lane, Babrekar Marg, Off Gokhale Road (North), Bombay - 400 028.

Q. Please let me know about some institutes for fashion designing as I am very interested in doing a course.

—Rina Samuel, Chittaranjan (W.B.)

A. Please refer to our 'Admissions Alert' column for details about some fashion designing institutes. You can also look for one near your home by scanning local newspapers.

Q. What is Internet? How does it

work?

—S.K. Sharma, Vaishali (Bihar)

A. Internet is an international network of computers. For details, see the cover story in *Competition Master* of September 1995 issue.

Q. A few weeks ago I got my eyes checked up and my number was -0.75. Can I improve my eye-sight and remove my spectacles?

—B.S. Jodha, Jalandhar Cantt

A. Eyesight can be improved by certain exercises, but you should wear spectacles so that it does not deteriorate further. Consult a doctor who will be able to guide you about these exercises.

Q. When transparent plastic tape is pulled off a roll, it often jumps over and sticks where it isn't wanted. Why?

—Anita Singh, Vishakhapatnam (AP)

A. The tape collects static electricity which makes it move where it is not wanted. We can advise you to be more careful while using it.

Q. I am employed in the Navy and would like to do MBA by correspondence. Which institute would be best for me?

—Jignesh Raval, Cochin (Kerala)

A. You can do a course from IGNOU or refer to institutes offering distance learning programmes. Some of them are mentioned in our 'Admissions Alert' column. You can also look for institutes in local newspapers and select which you find suitable.

Q. Is consumption of petrol in a vehicle proportional to the speed of the vehicle?

—S. Bose, Cuttack (Orissa)

A. Consumption of petrol in a vehicle is more when the vehicle starts and gains speed. In most vehicles, the maximum efficiency is between 40-50 kmph and after that, the consumption begins to increase again. Manufacturers give the speed at which the vehicle would consume minimum petrol. Consumption of petrol also depends on how you drive—brakes should be applied minimum to attain a good efficiency figure.

Q. Can one do CA or CS on a part time basis?

—K. Srinivasulu, Sullurpetta (AP)

A. As these courses can be done by correspondence, they can be done on part time basis.

Q. What will the temperature read on a clinical thermometer if the outside temperature is 47°C?

—Pratap Chandra Padhi, Berhampur (Orissa)

A. The temperature shown will be that of the body. Outside temperature will not affect body temperature.

Q. How is net run rate calculated in cricket matches?

—B. Eswar Kumar, Tirupati (AP)

A. The runs scored by a team is divided by number of overs to arrive at runs per over scored. The runs given by the team during bowling is also calculated on per over basis. The net run rate is arrived by subtracting runs per over given from runs per over scored.

Q. Who is a medical representative?

—Pradipta Mallick, Jagatsinghpur (Orissa)

A. A person who represents medical companies in different cities is called a medical representative.

Q. On what economic indicators are the different countries ranked?

—N. Ramana, Sriharikota (AP)

A. There are different ways on which countries can be ranked economically. One way could be per capita income, which shows how well-off people in different countries are.

Q. What is FCRA?

—Satyaban Gahir, Balangir (Orissa)

A. Foreign Contribution Regulation Act. It applies to voluntary organisations which receive foreign funding.

Q. How can I become a journalist?

—A.K. Dutta, Port Blair (Andaman)

A. Do a course in journalism or mass communication and look for a job in some newspaper or magazine.

Q. What is the difference between common salt and iodised salt?

—Kishore Kumar Nayak, Keonjhar (Orissa)

A. Common salt is that which is obtained from the sea. When it is processed and iodine added to it, it is called iodised salt. One should consume iodised salt to prevent diseases arising from iodine deficiency.

Q. I want to do modelling. How should I go about it?

—Jyoti Malik, Chandimandir (Haryana)

A. Get a portfolio made from a professional photographer and send it to model co-ordinating agencies. Alternately, you could enter beauty contests and hope to be spotted by modelling agents.

Q. What is Sensex? How is it calculated?

—Anil Kumar Singh, Varanasi (UP)

A. Please refer to *Competition Master* April '96 issue for an answer to your question.

Q. What is the difference between night and 'nite'?

—Prosenjit Dutta, Kandi (WB)

A. Nite is the way organisers of events write for 'night'. There is no difference though there is no such word as 'nite'.

Q. What is the difference between summer and winter times between India and Britain?

—Manoj Singh, New Delhi

A. The time difference between India and Britain is five and a half hours. There are no summer or winter times.

Q. What is the approximate percentage in written exam of MBA to clear the test?

—K. Dangi, Jaipur (Rajasthan)

A. The score varies from year to year. It would depend on the number of applicants, their performance and the number of seats at the institute. As such, there is no fixed percentage of the written exam of MBA to clear the test.

Q. Who is the editor of *The Hindu*?

—Purnima Mishra, Ganjam (Orissa)

A. N. Ram.

Q. I want to take philosophy as one of my optional subjects in Civil Services. What are its projects?

—Gyati Alla, Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh)

A. If you have an interest in it and think you can score well, it certainly has good prospects.

Q. On a radio in an AM band we hear interfering noises but not in FM. Why?

—S. Ruban Samuel Vincent, Madras.

A. The AM frequency has relatively low frequency (550-1600 kHz). When a radio is tuned to it, it can pick up low frequency waves in the area which we hear as interference. The FM is very high frequency (85-110 MHz). There are no high frequency waves in an area, hence there is no interference.

Q. What is SAARC? What are its objectives?

—Benika Kajla, Hoshiarpur (Punjab)

A. The South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC) was started in 1985 to encourage co-operation among member nations consisting of South Asian region. For detailed information regarding its summits, please see *Current Affairs* and *Backgrounders* published by Khanna Brothers, Chandigarh.

The Examiner's Guess Questions

Q. To which UN Commissions has India been elected?

Ans. India has been elected to four UN boards conducted by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)—the Statistics Commission, Commission on Social Development, Commission of Sustainable Development and the International Narcotics Control Board.

Q. Who has been appointed as UNICEF's national ambassador for children?

Ans. Former Indian cricket captain Ravi Shastri.

Q. When were the Olympic games first televised?

Ans. The Olympic games were first televised in 1936 but only to German viewers. The Games were first to be televised to the US in 1960 and full live coverage began only in 1964 at Tokyo.

Q. Where did the idea of lighting an Olympic flame come from?

Ans. The idea of lighting an Olympic flame for the duration of the Games derives from the ancient Greeks who used a flame lit by the sun's rays at Olympia. The concept was revived in 1936 by the Berlin Organising Committee.

Q. Which is World No-Tobacco day?

Ans. May 31, 1996.

Q. Where was the 'Made in India' show held recently?

Ans. A 'Made in India' show was held in Tokyo recently showing capabilities of Indian industry in traditional and non-traditional sectors. It was organised by Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) from May 21 to 29, 1996.

Q. Who is the Speaker of the Lok Sabha?

Ans. Purno A. Sangma is the first tribal to be elevated to the post of Speaker of the Lok Sabha. He is also the first Speaker from the north-east. He was also the first tribal to attain the rank of a Cabinet minister when he became Minister for Information and Broadcasting in the Rao

government.

Q. Shareholders of which company have been able to trade their shares despite the fact that it was not listed on the stock exchange?

Ans. Shareholders of IndusInd Enterprises and Finance Ltd, one of the main promoters of IndusInd Bank, can trade their shares though the company is not listed on the stock exchange. Multi Core Investments, a private company, will provide buy and sell quotes through which the 37,000 shareholders of the company can sell their shares before it goes public.

Q. How many women have been elected to the Parliament?

Ans. Of the 491 women standing for elections, 36 have been successful.

Q. Which company is making the Global Positioning System (GPS) satellite?

Ans. Rockwell International Corporation. It will make 33 of these next generation spacecraft under contract with the US Air Force and Missiles Centre in Los Angeles. The GPS satellite provides three dimensional navigation data for military and civil applications.

Q. Who is the world's lightest father?

Ans. Laloo Prasad Kushwaha weighs 13 kg and has a height of 36 inches. His wife is also 36 inches. She recently delivered a male child in Allahabad, making Laloo Prasad the world's lightest father.

Q. What is WOMEC?

Ans. The Union Coal Ministry has accepted the recommendations for best practices in environmental management in mining, passed at the first World Mining Environment Congress (WOMEC) held in New Delhi in December, 1995.

Q. For what was Qana in Lebanon in the news recently?

Ans. It is the name of the UN shelter which was bombed accidentally by Israel. More than 100 refugees were killed.

Q. Which Indian has been awarded the Goldman environmental prize?

Ans. Environmental lawyer M.C.

Mehta.

Q. Who has been selected for the Indira Gandhi gold plaque by the Asiatic Society.

Ans. Myanmar democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi.

Q. What is the name of Yeltsin's challenger in Russia's presidential elections to be held on June 16?

Ans. Communist leader Gennad Zyuganov.

Q. Who has written the book "Edwin and Nehru"?

Ans. Catherine Clement.

Q. What is the name of the comet recently discovered by a Japanese astronomer?

Ans. Comet Hykutake.

Q. What is the name of the mission by US scientists which will send two unmanned spacecraft to Pluto?

Ans. "Pluto Express".

Q. Who has been named the world's most powerful woman by *The Times*, London.

Ans. Benazir Bhutto. She beats Queen Elizabeth and Margaret Thatcher to get the title this year.

Q. Who was the man of the series in the Wills World Cup?

Ans. Sanath Jayasuriya.

Q. Why was the name of Jessica Dubroff in the news recently?

Ans. She was the seven-year old girl who lost her life while trying to become the World's Youngest Pilot to fly across the US on April 11, 1996.

Q. Who is the first Indian to play in the English Women's Cricket League?

Ans. Former skipper of the India Women's Cricket Team Purnima Rau.

Q. Which Indian newspaper has tied up with England's *Daily Mirror* for editorial and technical collaboration?

Ans. *Blitz*, the Karanjia owned Mumbai tabloid.

MANAGEMENT

The Management Interview

We present another interview based on questions actually asked during MBA entrance by reputed institutes this year. We also give an analysis of the answers of the candidate. There are of course no right or wrong answers. What is important is that you appear confident and can defend your views, apart from giving the impression that you are aware of what is asked. This will only come from extra reading and it is important to start reading about current affairs and current general knowledge much before the actual interview. Many students start the preparation when the interview call is received, which does not give enough time to generate confidence.

It is also good to remember what the management institute is looking for. It is looking for clarity and maturity of thought, as also your ability to work under stress. One should not be frivolous. Get to know about the institute before you go, as also facts about your home State and city. If you do not know an answer, do not bluff. For additional hints see Competition Master issue of March '96.

Candidate: Good afternoon, sir.

Member 1: Good afternoon. Please sit down.

C: Thank you sir.

M1: You seem nervous. Would you like to have a drink?

C: No thank you sir. I'll be comfortable.

M1: Tell us something about yourself.

C: Yes, sir. My name is Varun. I have done my B.Com and I am waiting for the results of the final year. My schooling was in Shimla. My father is in the IAS and I have an elder sister who is a doctor.

M1: Your second year marks are less than first year. Will they go down further in the final year?

M2: Didn't you want to try for IAS? Since your father is a bureaucrat, you could have followed in his footsteps.

C: Let me answer one question at a time. I will take up the second question first. I am not interested in IAS, sir. I was always interested in a career in management. That is why I did my B.Com and fortunately I could get good marks. My father has never pressed us to do IAS but has given us the freedom to choose our career. My sister became a doctor because she wanted to be one. Regarding my marks, during the second year I had to miss classes because I was unwell for a while. However, this year I have put in a lot of effort and I am confident of covering up.

M3: Why are you not interested in IAS?

C: I did not want to be a bureaucrat where you have the authority no doubt, but you are still stuck in a groove. I feel that a career in management will offer higher growth which depends on individual performance. I do not want a comfortable job but one in which I can prove myself.

M1: Why only MBA? After B.Com you can become a Chartered Accountant and prove yourself.

C: I feel that Chartered Accountant is limited to finance and accounts. I would like to do something more than that. My background of B.Com has given me an understanding of accounts but I

would not like to make it into a career. Management, I feel, is more exciting and one can do much more compared to CA which is limited to one area.

M3: What do you understand by management?

C: There are many definitions, sir. But the simplest one is that it is the art of getting work done from other people.

M3: What do you think are the qualities that a manager should possess?

C: I think that a manager should have planning and organising skills. He should be hard working and honest. Above all, he should have leadership qualities too since he has to manage people and lead by example.

M2: Where did you learn all this?

C: I have not learnt this, sir. Some of it I have studied in B.Com and then I have just gathered my thoughts. I have also read about the examples of successful managers who are featured in business magazines and formed my opinion.

M3: Which of these qualities do you have?

C: I have good organising capabilities. I used to organise many events in school and college. I am also good at planning and since my friends used to like working with me, I can say that I have leadership qualities too.

M2: So you have all the qualities of being a good manager. Tell us, what will you do if we do not take you?

C: I am quite confident that you will take me, sir. But to cover my risks I have applied to a few other institutes too and fortunately have got interview calls from them. As I am keen to do MBA, I am sure to get admission in one at least.

M3: Why, were you not confident that you will get through here?

C: I am confident, sir. But I applied to other institutes just to cover my risks. I did not want to waste an year just in case I missed one institute.

M1: What are the problems that India faces?

C: India is a large country and has many problems. At present the main problem faced by the country is that of instability. The elections gave no majority to any single party so each party is looking for coalitions. We have seen coalition governments in the past and they never seem to work. Secondly, there is the problem about the economy. The previous government kept inflation down by artificial methods which is bound to increase now. Debt has also reached huge proportions which has to be brought down.

M3: Don't you think the country has social problems?

C: Yes, sir. In fact, there are many social problems we face. There is the problem of dowry, which leads to torture and harassment and even to bride-burning. There is also the problem of female infanticide as people want to have male children only. This is going to skew the sex ratio in the country. Illiteracy, poverty and population growth are some of the other problems.

M2: Can these problems be removed through stability and eco-

nomic methods?

C: They may not be removed totally, but a stable government will certainly have the time to address these issues. An unstable government will be more concerned about its own survival. There is also a very real danger that an unstable government may take the country backwards, as V.P. Singh had done during his time. He had played the caste card merely to survive, with disastrous consequences. Secondly, economic growth can certainly solve our problems of poverty and unemployment. People will have more opportunities and can increase their incomes. In fact, poverty has already come down since the country took up the economic reforms programme, as was claimed by the previous government. If that is true, certainly our problems can be solved to a great extent by economic growth.

M3: But don't you think that economic growth brings in its own problems? There are many problems in the West which has seen some of the highest growth rates.

C: There are indeed problems which affluence brings. There are social problems there too, besides those of environment degradation.

M3: So what you are saying is that we should get rid of our problems through economic growth and import a new set of problems.

C: No, sir. Fortunately we have the example of the West before us. It is not necessary that we should commit the same mistakes. We can have economic growth combined with traditional knowledge so that we do not get the problems of the West.

M2: What are your hobbies?

C: I like to play games and read books. Another hobby I have is DX-ing, which is tracking radio stations of distant countries.

M2: That's an unusual hobby. Tell us more about it.

C: Almost all countries broadcast on shortwave. They want to know whether people are actually receiving the broadcast or not. Whenever I have spare time I try to catch unknown stations and send them reception reports. They send an acknowledgement card, called a QSL card. It is a good way of knowing the world and increase one's knowledge, besides participating in discussions and even learning a foreign language. They often send gifts to regular listeners.

M2: Have you ever got gifts from them?

C: Several times, sir. They send T-shirts, cassettes and books. But the best is if your views are aired by an international radio station.

M3: Which games do you play?

C: I play cricket, sir. These days I get less time but I play whenever I have time.

M3: Who is the manager of our cricket team?

C: Sandeep Patil, sir.

M2: What was your favourite subject in school?

C: I liked practically all the subjects that we had, but my favourite was English. I loved to read the books prescribed and also borrow from the library.

M3: Who wrote *Come With the Wind*?

C: Margaret Mitchell.

M3: Why did the book become very famous?

C: It was made into a highly successful film which is still regarded as a classic. The book was a bestseller and thus became very famous.

M2: You must have had Shakespeare in school.

C: We studied *Julius Caesar* and *Twelfth Night*. I liked *Julius Caesar*

very much, especially since it had those moving speeches. It is also a study in human character. I think these books help you to understand human nature.

M2: Did you not think of doing something which would help you retain touch with reading, since you like it so much?

C: In whatever profession one is in, one can keep up the habit of reading. Even successful managers read a lot. I will keep up this habit even when I graduate.

M1: Has any of your friends also applied here?

C: Yes, sir. One of my best friends has also got a call.

M1: Supposing we had only one seat. Should we take you or your best friend?

C: Ideally, I think you should take both of us. But if there is only one seat, you are the best judge to decide.

M1: But if we left the choice to you, what would you decide?

C: That is really a tough choice, sir. But if you left it to me, I would ask you to take my friend.

M1: Even if it means that you do not get admission?

C: Yes, sir. Friendship means rising above selfishness. If I took the seat that would make me selfish. I am sure to get admission this year. It would be ideal if my friend also got it.

M1: Do you have any weaknesses?

C: Yes, sir. I think everyone has certain weaknesses. I think I am a perfectionist, which sometimes creates problems. But I really cannot help it. I believe that whatever is done should be done well.

M1: Well thank you, Varun.

C: Thank you, sir.

Analysis

Varun was able to defend the questions relating to IAS and Chartered Accountancy well. The answers show that he has thought about them and made up his mind. He also can define management in a concise way, which shows that he has studied his textbooks well. In fact, the student should be well versed with his subjects. Varun also declined politely the drink offered to him. There are no hard and fast rules about this, but if you ask for the drink, chances are that you will not get the time to drink it.

Note how Varun handled the situation when two questions were asked simultaneously. Be careful when you say you have good planning or organising capabilities. The board can well ask why you think so. Do you have the answer? Similarly, the questions related to applying to other institutes are tricky but Varun answered them well. Note that he was well prepared about the problems faced by the country. But he should not have made statements about coalition government. Avoid getting into controversial areas and playing the caste factor certainly is. But if you feel strongly about it and can defend it forcefully, you can take a chance and mention it.

Fortunately the board moved on to hobbies. Note that Varun had a hobby which was entirely different and he could speak on it. He could also speak on his reading habit. The question on whether his friend should be taken is another tricky one. If you say you should be taken, can you defend it without sounding selfish? The answer to weaknesses was also a satisfactory one.

On the whole, the candidate comes across as mature. He seems to have thought about his answers. He is well prepared and was not trapped in the cross-questioning. If you can't do so, simply back out and say you are not sure rather than saying something which you cannot defend.

ADMISSION ALERT

This feature alerts our readers about forthcoming examinations and opportunities. Institutes should send us information well in advance to be included here. Readers are advised to assess their own suitability before applying—this feature is not a recommendation of any course or institute.

Architecture

Undergraduate Programme in Architecture (5 years) Eligibility: Class 12 with minimum 60% marks. Last date: July 3, 1996. Written test: July 14, 1996. Apply to: Sushant School of Art and Architecture, Sushant Lok, Gurgaon - 122 001/TVB School of Habitat Studies c/o Vidya Bharatiya Educational Society, C-29 Panchsheel Enclave New Delhi - 110 017 with a DD of Rs 310.

Computers

MCA and Diploma in Computer Applications Eligibility: Bachelor's degree with minimum 50% marks. Written test: July 14, 1996. Last date: June 30, 1996. Apply to: Head Department of Computer Science, University of Jammu, Jammu with a DD of Rs 100.

Defence

Rashtriya Indian Military College. Entrance examination to be held on August 5-6, 1996. Last date: June 17, 1996. Eligibility: Male candidates between 11-1/2 to 13 years as on January 1, 1997. Apply to: Commandant, RIMC, Dehradun, with a IPO of Rs 75.

Distance Education

1 **Diplomas in Management, Marketing, Finance, etc** (1 year) Eligibility: Graduate. Last date: July 30, 1996. Course commences on August 1, 1996. Programmes will be aired on Zee TV. Apply to: Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies, VL Mehta Road, Vile Parle (W), Mumbai - 400 056 with a DD of Rs 100.

2 **Diplomas in Business, Personnel, etc.** (6 months) Apply to: National Institute of Industrial Research and Development, 151 Sanfome High Road, Madras - 600 004 with a DD of Rs 30.

Environment

Diploma in Environment Law (8 months). Eligibility: Open to all students of law, sciences and natural sciences. Last date: June 25, 1996. Apply to: Centre for Environment Law, WWF-India, 172B Lodi Estate, New Delhi - 110 003 with a DD of Rs 50.

Fashion Design

1 **Fashion and Textile Design**: Apply to: Senonta College of Fashion Design and Management, 20/3 Punjabi Bagh Extension, New Delhi - 110 026 with a DD of Rs 90.

2 **Fashion and Textile Design**: Apply to: Target Institute of Design 397 Masjid Moth, South Extn. 2, New Delhi - 110 049.

Hotel Management

1 **Bachelor of Hotel Management and Catering**. Eligibility: Class 12 with minimum 50% marks. Last date: June 29, 1996. Written test: July 21, 1996. Apply to: Faculty of Management, Rohilkhand University, Bareilly with a DD of Rs 360.

2 **Bachelor in Hotel Management**. Eligibility: Class 12 with minimum 40% marks. Apply to: Administrative Management College, 30th Cross 4th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore with a DD of Rs 225.

3 **Programme in Catering Technology and Culinary Arts**. Eligibility: Class 12 with 45% marks. Apply to: Director Indian Academy of Catering Technology, 6-3-1219/6A Umanagar, Begumpet, Hyderabad - 500 016 with a DD of Rs 250.

4 **Courses in housekeeping, bakery, cookery, etc** (1 year) Eligibility: Matric with minimum 50% marks. Age limit: 17-25 years. Interviews on July 8-12, 1996. Apply to: Principal, Foodcraft Institute Sector 42-D, Chandigarh - 160 036 with a DD of Rs 28.

Management

1 **PGDBM** (Full and part time) Eligibility: Graduation. Written test: June 30, 1996. Last date: June 20, 1996. Apply to: Centre of Management Studies, PB No. 153, Shastri Nagar, Ghaziabad - 201 001 with a DD of Rs 320.

2 **MBA**: Eligibility: Graduate. Written test: July 14, 1996. Last date: July 1, 1996. Apply to: Institute of Business Management, Bela, Darbhanga (Bihar) with a DD of Rs 250.

3 **Master in Personnel Management (MPM)**: Eligibility: Graduate with at least second class. Written test: July 14, 1996. Interview: July 19, 1996. Last date: July 6, 1996. Apply to: Director, Symbiosis Institute of Business Management, Senapati Bapat Road, Pune - 411 004 with a DD of Rs 250.

4 **PGDBM** (1 year) Eligibility: Graduate. Interview on July 7/14, 1996. Apply to: Institute of International Management, B1-90 Aliganj, Lucknow - 226 024 with a DD of Rs 120.

Merchant Navy

Graduate Mechanical Engineers and Deck Cadets B.E. with minimum 60% marks and age upto 25 years for GMEs, Class 12 with Physics, Chemistry and Maths with 60% marks for Deck Cadets. Apply to: Indian Maritime Institute, IMI House, Gadaipur Bund Road Near Chandan Hulo Village, New Delhi - 110 030 with a DD of Rs 200.

Sports

B.Sc/Master of Physical Education and Sports: Eligibility: Class 12 for B.Sc, Graduation for Master. Apply to: Indira Gandhi Institute of Physical Education and Sports Sciences, B Block, Vikas Puri New Delhi - 110 018 with a DD of Rs 50.

General Studies Scene

Q. 1. Describe the main features of vote on account for 1996-97 presented before the Parliament by the Finance Minister. What are the areas of concern and priority for the economy?

Ans. Owing to the 11th General Elections in April/May 1996, the previous government did not present a regular budget on February 29, 1996. However, to make sure that the financial matters do not come to a grinding halt, a vote on account was presented before the Parliament and all expenditures etc. upto first four months of the financial year were voted by the Parliament. Although the vote on account was only for a period of four months, the Revenue and Expenditure estimates were prepared for the entire year.

The vote on account obtained Lok Sabha's approval for spending Rs 66,528 crore during April-July period from the Consolidated Fund of India. The vote on account, also described as "Interim Budget", brought to the fore several achievements and areas of concern to the economy. During the year 1995-96 net tax Revenue to the Centre was Rs 81,088 crore as against the budget estimates of Rs 74,374 crore, an increase of Rs 6714 crore. While the tax revenue receipt increased, food and fertilizer subsidies also, on the other hand, overshot the budget estimates. The previous year's budget estimates projected food and fertilizer subsidies at Rs 10,650 crore but the revised estimates put this figure at Rs 11,735 crore, an increase of Rs 1085 crore. Fiscal Deficit was to be contained at a level of Rs 57634 crore, 5.5 per cent of the GDP, but in the revised estimates for 1995-96, this amount is expected to be Rs 64010 crore, which would be 5.9 per cent of the GDP.

The interim budget for 1996-97 aims at pegging the fiscal deficit at the level of 5 per cent of the GDP i.e. at Rs 62,404 crore and a budgetary deficit at Rs 5000 crore. Out of a total proposed expenditure of Rs 2,02,024 crore, Rs 50,521 has been provided for plan expenditure, which reflects 4 per cent increase over the previous year's amount of Rs 48,500 crore. The entire increase in the plan expenditure has been provided for rural development and social sector. The outlay for rural development has been fixed at Rs 8692 crore for 1996-97, bringing the total expenditure on rural development during the Eighth plan to Rs 33,400 crore, as against the outlay of Rs 30,000 crore provided in the Plan document. The Plan outlay for defence has been raised from Rs 25,500 crore in 1995-96 to Rs 27,819 crore for 1996-97. Food subsidy has been raised to Rs 5774 crore while the fertilizer subsidy is at Rs 6800 crore, taking the total subsidy figure for both food and fertilizer to Rs 12,574 crore. Most of the additional funds allocated under plan expenditure towards rural development are directed to imple-

ment the new schemes like mid-day meal scheme, hiking the allocation to the National Social Assistance Programme and Indira Awas Yojana. There has, however, been no change in the tax rates or tax structure, which may be introduced by the new Government when it introduces the regular budget in July 1996.

The interim budget posed certain serious areas of concern. One, of course, was the Government's inability to contain the fiscal deficit to a level below 5 per cent. Another problem is galloping increase in non-plan expenditure and the gap between plan and non-plan expenditure, which is increasing year after year. The vote on account estimated the non-plan expenditure to go to Rs 1,51,503 crore as against previous year's estimated amount of Rs 1,34,320 crore which means an increase over 12 per cent while increase in plan expenditure is just 4 per cent. This indicates that while increase in funds for development is lower, for non-developmental expenses the burden is increasing unabated. Liability on account of interest payments is also increasing at galloping speed. As against previous year's estimates of Rs 52000 crore on account of interest payments, during the current financial year this liability is estimated to increase to Rs 60,000 crore.

Q. 2. Describe the Ordinance-making power of the President. How does this power differ from the one provided in the Government of India Act 1935? Also discuss the possibility of misuse of the Ordinance-making power.

Ans. Article 123 of the Indian Constitution provides the President of India with the power to legislate by ordinances at a time when it is not possible to have a constitutional and Parliamentary enactment on the subject. This Ordinance-making power provides the President with almost equal legislative powers at par with the Parliament. This power is also subject to similar constitutional constraints as are applicable to the power of the Parliament to legislate. Article 13(3) (a) of the Constitution further explains that "Law" includes an "Ordinance" also. The Ordinance may, therefore, have retrospective effect, or may aim at amending or repealing the existing law. But the only difference is that a legislation is a permanent statute while an Ordinance is only temporary and needs to be replaced by a proper law passed by legislature after the prescribed time limit.

Vide the Government of India Act of 1935, the Governor-General also had the power to legislate by Ordinances. But the current power of the President differs substantially from the Ordinance-making power of the Governor-General under the Act of 1935 in several respects as under:

- (a) The President of India is required to act on the advice of his Council of Ministers to promulgate an Ordinance and cannot do so on the basis of his own individual judgement, while the Government of India Act of 1935 had empowered the British Governor-General to exercise his individual judgement while issuing an Ordinance.
- (b) The Constitution provides that the Ordinance issued by the President must be placed before the Parliament when it re-assembles and the Parliament is supposed to pass it within a period of six weeks from the date of its re-assembly. In case it is disapproved or not passed by the Parliament within this prescribed period, the Ordinance would cease to have effect. No such provision of automatic expiration or subsequent Parliamentary approval was provided in the Government of India Act of 1935.
- (c) The President of India is empowered to issue an Ordinance only when either of the two Houses of Parliament has been prorogued or otherwise not in session. In other words, when both the Houses of Parliament are in session, the President is not empowered to make any Ordinance. He can thus use this special legislative power only under special circumstances when it is not possible in ordinary course for the Parliament to legislate. No such restriction was imposed upon the Ordinance-making power of the Governor-General under the Government of India Act of 1935.

Before promulgating any Ordinance, the President has to be satisfied that there are sufficient grounds or circumstances that make necessary for him to take immediate action of legislating by way of Ordinance. In this matter the President has to be satisfied and the genuineness of such "satisfaction" cannot be challenged in any court of law, except on the grounds of mala-fide, as held by the Supreme Court in a case titled as "Cooper Vs Union of India". For example if the President prorogues a House of the Parliament with a view to issue an Ordinance, such an act may be described as mala-fide. A minority government, with the intention of avoiding facing the Parliament may take recourse to legislation by Ordinances, but then it is for the President to see whether or not the "immediate nature" of the matter warrants promulgation of an Ordinance. A recent case, where President Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma used his personal judgement and declined to promulgate an Ordinance was when, after the date of General Elections was declared and the Rao Government wanted the President to promulgate an Ordinance making reservation in services for Dalit Christians. The President, using his judgement, declined to promulgate the said Ordinance on the grounds that since the election had been declared, it should be left to the new Government to consider this issue.

Q. Describe some of the steps taken by the Government during recent months to control the inflation in India. Have these measures been effective?

Ans. During the past several years now, higher rate of inflation had been causing concern for the Government, and several

steps were taken to keep the price rise under check. However, before considering these measures, it should be understood that containing the inflation rate to 4 to 5 per cent level does not mean reduction in prices. It, infact, means reduction in the rate of increase in prices. The steps taken are:

- (a) Fiscal deficit, which was at an alarming level of 8.3 per cent of the GDP in 1990-91, has been brought down to less than 6 per cent with the target of bringing it down to the level of 5 per cent during the current financial year. Lesser quantum of fiscal deficit has direct positive bearing on containing the inflation.
- (b) Growth of money supply has been kept under check. During first 11 months of 1995-96, money supply (M_1) was restricted to just 7.4 per cent, a very low level by any standards. Low level of M_1 results in restricting money supply in the market thereby reducing the aggregate demand for goods and services and thus maintaining a lower level of prices.
- (c) Borrowing by the Central Government from RBI through ad-hoc treasury bills is being stopped, thereby reducing pressure of the inflationary tendencies.
- (d) To keep a check on the prices of the foodgrains, the Food Corporation of India (FCI) has recently sold in open market rice and wheat in substantial quantities.
- (e) With a view to check the prices of edible oils, the Government allowed import of edible oils under OGL with a reduced duty of 30 per cent.
- (f) The Government effected considerable reduction in the excise duty on a number of items with the twin objective of reducing their prices on the one hand and encouraging the industry to grow at a faster rate to enhance the growth rate and thus reduce the inflationary pressures.
- (g) The Government has not effected increase in administrative prices of the products like coal, diesel and petrol, which has kept the energy and transport cost at a lower level.
- (h) Imports of sugar and pulses under the OGL and raising the quota of levy sugar by 5 per cent under the Public Distribution System (PDS) in August 1995 has also eased the pressure of prices on these important food items during the previous financial year considerably.

The above measures, coupled with higher interest rates, have yielded satisfactory results. The inflation rate was tamed considerably to less than 5 per cent during the months of January to April, 1996. It was at a higher level of 10.4 per cent at the beginning of 1995-96. The short-term measures listed above have so far been effective in containing the inflation rate. Being an election year the ruling party did not want to take any unpopular decisions. Whether or not the above measures are sustainable would be known by the end of 1996 when the new Government might have to take the unpopular decision of enhancing the administered prices.

Quantitative Aptitude

Elementary Mathematics

Combined Defence Services Exam, 21st May, 1995

- 1 $\cos 60^\circ + \sin 30^\circ + \cos^2 30^\circ$ is equal to
 (a) $\frac{7}{4}$ (b) $\frac{4}{7}$ (c) $\frac{6}{7}$ (d) $\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{21}$
- 2 The value of $(1 + \tan^2 30^\circ)$ is
 (a) 3 (b) $\frac{1}{3}$ (c) $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$ (d) $\frac{4}{3}$
- 3 If $x = a \cos \theta + b \sin \theta$ and $y = a \sin \theta - b \cos \theta$, then $x^2 + y^2$ is equal to
 (a) $a^2 - b^2$ (b) $b^2 - a^2$
 (c) $a^2 + b^2$ (d) $a^2 + 2ab$
- 4 If $\sec \theta = \frac{-7}{6}$ then θ can lie in
 (a) first or fourth quadrant
 (b) second or third quadrant
 (c) third and fourth quadrant
 (d) first and second quadrant
- 5 $(1 - \sin^2 \theta) \tan^2 \theta$ is equal to
 (a) $\cos^2 \theta$ (b) $\sin^2 \theta$
 (c) $\tan \theta$ (d) none of the above
- 6 The value of $\frac{\tan 30^\circ + \tan 60^\circ}{1 - \tan 30^\circ \tan 60^\circ}$ is
 (a) zero (b) $\frac{1}{2}$ (c) 1 (d) infinity
- 7 If $\sin(A - B) = \frac{1}{2}$ and $\sin A = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$, then the angles A and B respectively are
 (a) $15^\circ, 45^\circ$ (b) $45^\circ, 15^\circ$
 (c) $30^\circ, 60^\circ$ (d) $60^\circ, 30^\circ$
- 8 If $4 \sin^2 x - 1 = 0$ and $0 < x < 2\pi$, then the positive values of x are
 (a) $30^\circ, 120^\circ, 210^\circ, 300^\circ$ (b) $30^\circ, 150^\circ, 210^\circ, 330^\circ$
 (c) $30^\circ, 120^\circ, 150^\circ, 210^\circ$ (d) $30^\circ, 160^\circ, 210^\circ, 320^\circ$
- 9 $\sqrt{\sec^2 A + \operatorname{cosec}^2 A}$ is equal to
 (a) $\sec A + \operatorname{cosec} A$ (b) $\tan A + \cot A$
 (c) $\sec A + \tan A$ (d) $\cot A + \operatorname{cosec} A$
- 10 $\sec^6 \theta - \tan^6 \theta - 3 \sec^2 \theta \tan^2 \theta$ is equal to
 (a) 1 (b) 0 (c) 2 (d) π
- 11 If $\frac{\cos x + \sin x}{\cos x} = \sqrt{2}$, then one of the values of $\frac{\cos x}{\sin x}$ is

- (a) $\sqrt{2}$ (b) $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ (c) $2\sqrt{2}$ (d) 2

- 12 If $\sec \theta + \tan \theta = 1 + \sqrt{2}$ then $\sec \theta$ is equal to
 (a) 1 (b) $\sqrt{2}$ (c) $\sqrt{3}$ (d) 2

13 If an object is at a height from the horizontal line through the point of observation then the angle subtended by the height at the point of observation is called

- (a) angle of depression (b) angle of elevation
 (c) angle of the object (d) none of the above

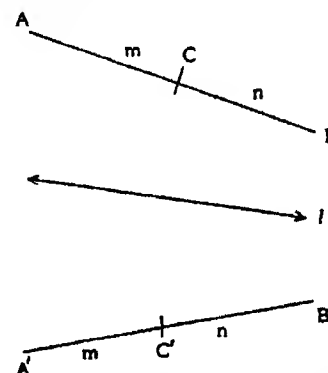
14 If the angle of elevation of the tower at a distance of 300 metres from the point of observer is 60° , then the height of the tower is

- (a) 300 metres (b) $300\sqrt{3}$ metres
 (c) 150 metres (d) $150\sqrt{3}$ metres

15 A flag staff is standing vertically on a horizontal plane. If a man on the ground and 20 metres away from the foot of the flag staff found the angle of elevation of the top of the flag staff to be 30° then the height of the flag staff is

- (a) $\frac{20\sqrt{3}}{3}$ m (b) $\frac{3\sqrt{3}}{20}$ m
 (c) $\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3}$ m (d) None of the above

16 In the given figure A A' and B B' are pairs of symmetric points with respect to l . If C divides AB in the ratio $m : n$ and C' divides A'B' in the same ratio $m : n$, then



- (a) C and C' are symmetric points with respect to l
 (b) C and C' are non symmetric points with respect to l
 (c) C and C' are the points on the lines parallel to l
 (d) None of the above

- 17 Two angles are called adjacent angles if
 (a) they have the same vertex

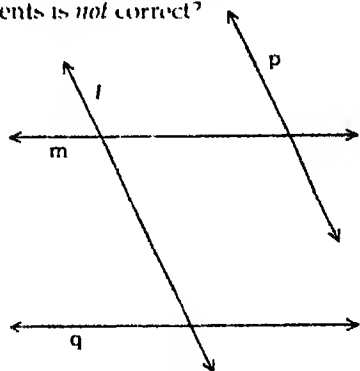
$$\frac{\cos x}{\sin x} = \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \text{ is}$$

- (b) they have the common arm
 (c) the other arm of one angle is on one side of the common arm and that of the other is on the opposite side
 (d) all the above

18. If we extend the sides of a polygon in a certain order, then the sum of the external angles transformed is:

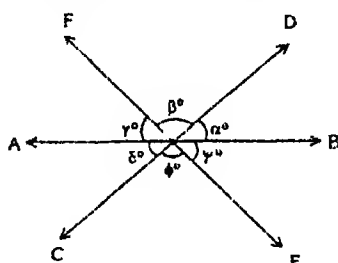
- (a) $(2n - 4)$ right angles, where n is the number of sides in the polygon
 (b) $(2n + 4)$ right angles, where n is the number of sides in the polygon
 (c) 4 right angles (d) none of the above

19. l, m, p and q are lines in the same plane. If l and m are intersecting lines, $p \parallel l$ and $q \parallel m$, then which one of the following statements is *not* correct?



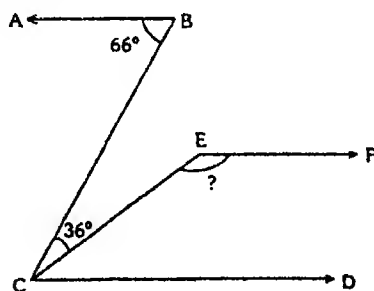
- (a) p and q intersect at a point
 (b) l, m and p intersect at a point
 (c) l and p intersect at infinity
 (d) m and q intersect at infinity

20. In the given figure, three lines AB, CD and EF intersect in a common point, forming angles as shown. If $\alpha^\circ = 50^\circ$ and $\beta^\circ = 90^\circ$, then the value of γ is:



- (a) 30° (b) 40° (c) 50° (d) 60°

21. If $AB \parallel CD \parallel EF$ as shown in the given figure, then the $\angle CEF$ is equal to:



- (a) 120° (b) 135° (c) 150° (d) 160°

22. A triangle can have

- (a) two right angles (b) two obtuse angles
 (c) all angles less than 60° (d) two acute angles

23. If O is the mid point of the lines AB and CD and $AC = BD$, then:

- (a) AC is parallel to BD
 (b) AC and BD form an acute angle
 (c) AC and BD meet at right angles
 (d) none of the above

24. In two similar triangles $\triangle ABC$ and $\triangle DEF$, $DE = 3$ cm, $EF = 5$ cm, $DF = 4$ cm and $BC = 20$ cm, then the length of AB is equal to:

- (a) 15 cm (b) 12 cm (c) 10 cm (d) 6 cm

25. If the angles of one triangle are respectively equal to the angles of another triangle, then the ratio of the corresponding sides is the ratio of the corresponding:

- (a) medians
 (b) bisector of angles (angle bisector segments)
 (c) altitude (d) all the three above

26. If the diagonals of a parallelogram are perpendicular, then it is a:

- (a) Rhombus (b) Rectangle
 (c) Quadrilateral (d) none of the above

27. The side of a rhombus whose diagonals are 16 cm and 12 cm respectively, is:

- (a) 14 cm (b) 12 cm (c) 10 cm (d) 8 cm

28. The maximum number of tangents which can be drawn from an external point to a circle are:

- (a) two (b) one (c) zero
 (d) none of the above

29. If AB and CD are two chords intersecting at a point P inside the circle such that $AP = CP$, then consider the following statements:

A : $AB = CD$.

R : $\triangle APC$ and $\triangle DPB$ are similar triangles.

Of these statements:

- (a) both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
 (b) both A and R are true but R is *not* a correct explanation of A
 (c) A is true, but R is false
 (d) A is false, but R is true

30. The locus of the vertex A of an isosceles triangle ABC which has BC as its fixed base is:

- (a) a line parallel to BC
 (b) a line perpendicular to BC
 (c) a circle with BC as a diameter
 (d) perpendicular bisector of BC

31. The radius of a circle is R . AB is a chord of this circle. AB cuts the circle into 2 unequal segments. C is a point on the smaller arc AB . If the angle ACB is equal to 120° , then the area of the smaller segment is:

- (a) $\frac{R^2}{12}(4\pi - 3\sqrt{3})$ (b) $\frac{R^2}{16}(4\sqrt{2} - 2\pi)$
 (c) $\frac{R^2}{8}(8\pi - 10\sqrt{3})$ (d) $\frac{R^2}{12}(5\pi - 4\sqrt{3})$

32. If O is the centre of a circle of radius R and OA and OB are 2 radii of the circle, such that the angle AOB is θ in radians, then the area of the bigger segment of the circle cut off by the chord AB will be:

- (a) $\frac{R^2}{2}(\theta - \sin \theta)$ (b) $\frac{R^2}{2}(\theta + \sin \theta)$
 (c) $\frac{R^2}{2}(\theta + \cos \theta)$ (d) $\frac{R^2}{2}(2\pi - \theta + \sin \theta)$

33. The area of an isosceles right-angled triangle is 800 sq. metres. The greatest possible square has been cut out from it. The length of the diagonal of this square will be:

- (a) $10\sqrt{2}$ m (b) $10\sqrt{3}$ m (c) 20 m (d) $20\sqrt{2}$ m

34. If a triangle and a rectangle have equal areas and equal altitude, then the base of the triangle is equal to:

- (a) the base of the rectangle
 (b) twice the base of the rectangle
 (c) thrice the base of the rectangle
 (d) 4 times the base of the rectangle

35. A circular running track is 10 m. wide. The difference in the length of the outer boundary and the inner boundary

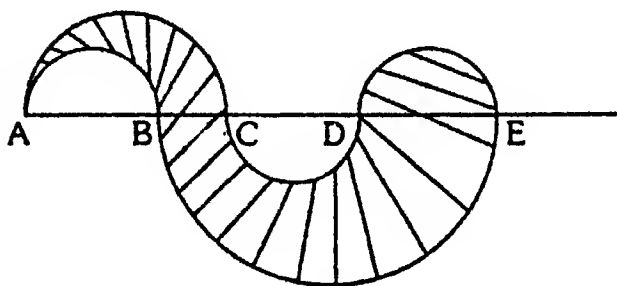
1. depends on the length of the track.
 2. depends on the radius of the inner boundary.
 3. depends on the area of the track.
 4. is 20π m.

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

Codes :

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 1 and 3
 (c) 2 and 3 (d) 4 alone

36. The boundary of the shaded region in the given diagram consists of five semi circular areas.



If AB = 7 cm, BC = 3.5 cm, CD = 7 cm and DE = 7 cm, then the area of the shaded region is:

- (a) $\pi \cdot \frac{17.5}{2} \times \frac{3.5}{2} \text{ cm}^2$ (b) $\frac{175 \times 21}{8} \pi \text{ cm}^2$
 (c) $\frac{35 \times 21\pi}{16} \text{ cm}^2$ (d) $\frac{35 \times 21\pi}{8} \text{ cm}^2$

37. The measurement of the field is given in the following notes in metres

Notes		
50	To B	
	300	0
	240	50
	160	0
60	100	
	80	50
0	0	40
From A		

The area of the field will be:

- (a) 22800 sq m (b) 23000 sq m
 (c) 23100 sq m (d) 23400 sq m

38. Is it possible to have a right circular cone whose base area is equal to its curved surface area? If yes, then the ratio of the height of the cone to its radius will be:

- (a) No (b) Yes, 1 : 2 (c) Yes, 2 : 1 (d) Yes, 1 : 1

39. If altitude and radius of a right circular cone are made 3 times their original dimensions, then the ratio of new volume to the old volume is:

- (a) 3 (b) 6 (c) 9 (d) 27

40. A circular filter paper is folded in the usual way to form a right circular cone, to be fitted in a funnel for the purpose of filtration. The vertical angle of the funnel will be:

- (a) 90° (b) 75° (c) 60° (d) 45°

41. Two of the side faces of a pyramid are equilateral triangles and the other two side faces are right angled triangles. If the length of each side of the equilateral triangles is 6 metres, then the volume of the pyramid (in cubic m) is:

- (a) $18\sqrt{3}$ (b) $36\sqrt{2}$ (c) $24\sqrt{3}$ (d) 60

42. If three solid bodies—a sphere, a right circular cylinder and a right circular cone—are of equal radius and equal surface area, then their heights are in the ratio:

- (a) $2 : 1 : 2\sqrt{2}$ (b) $\sqrt{2} : 1 : 2$
 (c) $2 : 1 : 3\sqrt{2}$ (d) $6\sqrt{2} : 3\sqrt{3} : 4$

43. A sphere exactly fits inside a hollow cylinder closed at both ends. The ratio of the volume of the empty space in the cylinder to the volume of the sphere is:

- (a) 2 : 1 (b) 1 : 2 (c) 2 : 3 (d) 3 : 2

44. A hollow right circular cylinder of radius r and height $4r$ is standing vertically on a plane. If a solid right circular cone of radius $2r$ and height $6r$ is placed with its vertex down in the cylinder, then the volume of the portion of the cone outside the cylinder is:

- (a) $7\pi r^3$ (b) $\frac{8}{3}\pi r^3$ (c) $\frac{9}{8}\pi r^3$ (d) $2\pi r^3$

45. If a sphere of maximum volume is placed inside a hollow right circular cone with radius r and slant height l such that the base of the cone touches the sphere, then the volume of the sphere is:

- (a) $\frac{4}{3}\pi \left(\frac{l+r}{l-r}\right)^3$ (b) $\frac{4}{3}\pi r^3 \left(\frac{l-r}{l+r}\right)^{3/2}$
 (c) $\frac{4}{3}\pi \left(\frac{l-r}{l+r}\right)^3$ (d) $\frac{4}{3}\pi r^3 \left(\frac{l+r}{l-r}\right)^{3/2}$

46. The cumulative frequency of a given interval is the
 (a) sum (b) difference
 (c) product (d) quotient

of the frequency of that interval and sum of the frequencies of all the intervals lower to the given interval.

47. In a frequency distribution of certain continuous data, the class limits were chosen as 50-52, 53-55, 56-58 ... etc. Which one of the following is the width of the class interval?
 (a) 2.00 (b) 2.50 (c) 2.75 (d) 3.00

48. The cumulative frequency curve or Ogive is the curve drawn between:

- (a) the upper limits of the class intervals and the frequencies of the class intervals
 (b) the upper limits of the class intervals and the cumulative frequencies of the class intervals
 (c) the mean values of the class intervals and the cumulative frequencies of the class intervals
 (d) the lower limits of the class intervals and the cumulative frequencies of the class intervals

49. From the histogram constructed for the following distribution

x	f
1-9	20
9-17	30
17-25	26
25-33	16
33-41	10
41-49	8
49-57	4
57-63	4

the value of mode shall be calculated as:

- (a) 10.14 (b) 12.34 (c) 18.24 (d) 14.72

50. If a frequency distribution is moderately asymmetrical, then which one of the following relationship for mean, mode and median holds good?

- (a) mode = 3 median + 2 mean
 (b) mode = 2 median + 3 mean
 (c) mode = 2 median - 3 mean
 (d) mode = 3 median - 2 mean

51. The least among the following numbers

$\sqrt{0.1}$, $\sqrt[3]{0.1}$, $\sqrt[4]{0.1}$, $\sqrt[5]{0.1}$ is:

- (a) $\sqrt[4]{0.1}$ (b) $\sqrt[5]{0.1}$
 (c) $\sqrt{0.1}$ (d) $\sqrt[3]{0.1}$

52. If a and b be two odd integers, then which one of the following is correct?

- (a) a + b and ab are both odd
 (b) a + b is even but ab is odd
 (c) a + b and ab are both even
 (d) a + b is odd but ab is even

53. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below the lists:

List I

- A. $\sqrt{0.576}$
 B. $\sqrt{0.676}$
 C. $\sqrt{0.784}$
 D. $\sqrt{1.024}$

List II

1. .28
 2. .26
 3. .32
 4. .24

Codes:

- | | A | B | C | D |
|-----|---|---|---|---|
| (a) | 2 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| (b) | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| (c) | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| (d) | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 |

54. The smallest number needed to be added to 74684160, in order to make it a perfect square is:

- (a) 1 (b) 4 (c) 6 (d) 9

55. $(0.3)^2 + \sqrt{0.121}$ is equal to:

- (a) $8\frac{2}{11}$ (b) $81\frac{9}{11}$ (c) $\frac{9}{11}$ (d) $\frac{9}{110}$

56. In a box there are one rupee, 50 paise and 25 paise coins. The total number of such coins is 340. If the ratio of their values be 5 : 4 : 1, then the number of one rupee, 50 paise and 25 paise coins in the box are respectively:

- (a) 80, 160, 100 (b) 100, 160, 80
 (c) 160, 100, 80 (d) 100, 80, 160

57. Two cars start towards each other from points 200 km apart. One car travels at 40 km per hour and the other travels at 35 km per hour. How far apart will the two cars be after 4 hours of continuous travelling?

- (a) 20 km (b) 40 km (c) 75 km (d) 100 km

58. A can do a piece of work in 9 days. B is 50% more efficient than A. The number of days it takes B to do the same piece of work, is:

- (a) 3 (b) $4\frac{1}{2}$ (c) 6 (d) $13\frac{1}{2}$

59. After an increase in the price of sugar by 10% if a consumer wants to reduce his consumption so as to have his expenditure on sugar unchanged, then he should reduce his consumption of sugar by:

- (a) 9% (b) $9\frac{1}{11}\%$ (c) 10% (d) 12%

60. Ram sold a cow to Rahim at 20% profit. Rahim sold it to Robert at 25% profit. If Robert paid Rs. 900, then Ram had purchased the cow (in Rupees) for:

- (a) 600 (b) 700 (c) 750 (d) 800

61. If the difference between compound interest and simple interest on a sum of money for two years at 10% per annum is Rs 24, then the sum (in Rs) is:

- (a) 1800 (b) 2000 (c) 2400 (d) 2500

62. A sum of money deposited at compound interest doubles itself in 4 years. It will amount to sixteen times at the same rate in:

- (a) 12 years (b) 16 years (c) 24 years (d) 30 years

63. The costs of a book and a pen are in the ratio 3 : 2. If the cost of 10 books and 6 pens is Rs 63, then the cost of a book

(in Rupees) is:

- (a) 3 (b) 4.50
(c) 5 (d) 5.50

64. The stock of wheat in a ration shop is sufficient for 40 weeks if the quantum of ration per head is 1750 gms of wheat. If the amount of ration per head be raised to 2 kgs of wheat, then the stock will run for:

- (a) 20 weeks (b) 25 weeks
(c) 30 weeks (d) 35 weeks

65. Consider the following statements :

1. 6th root of 64 is not prime.
2. 5th root of 243 is prime.

Of these statements :

- (a) 1 and 2 are correct (b) 1 alone is correct
(c) 2 alone is correct (d) none of the above

66. When a number is divided by 56, the remainder is 29. If the number is divided by 8, then the remainder is:

- (a) 5 (b) 4 (c) 3 (d) 2

67. The values that can be assigned to r so that $4n + r$ will include all odd primes, is:

- (a) $r = 1, r = 2$ (b) $r = 0, r = 1, r = 3$
(c) $r = 1$ and $r = 3$ (d) $r = 0, r = 1, r = 2, r = 3$

68. If n is a multiple of 3, then $n(n+1)(n+2)$ must always be divisible by:

- (a) 5 (b) 6 (c) 7 (d) 8

69. Any number is divisible by 3, if the:

- (a) last digit is 3
(b) sum of the digits in the odd places from unit place is divisible by 3
(c) sum of the digits in the even places from the ten's place is divisible by 3
(d) sum of all the digits of the number is divisible by 3

70. The least positive integer which when divided by 4 and 6 leaves a remainder 1, is:

- (a) 25 (b) 29 (c) 17 (d) 13

71. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the codes given below the lists:

List I (Numbers) List II (Their L.C.M.)

- | | |
|-----------|--------|
| A. 35, 77 | 1. 693 |
| B. 20, 30 | 2. 105 |
| C. 15, 35 | 3. 60 |
| D. 63, 99 | 4. 385 |

Codes :

- | | A | B | C | D |
|-----|---|---|---|---|
| (a) | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| (b) | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| (c) | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| (d) | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 |

72. The expression

$$\log C^3 - \log \frac{2}{C^4} + \log \sqrt{C^3} + \log \frac{2}{\sqrt{C}}$$

is equal to:

- (a) $\log C$ (b) $2 \log C$ (c) $8 \log C$ (d) $\frac{1}{2} \log C$

73. $\log_{10}(\log_{10} x)$ is meaningful when x is:

- (a) greater than zero (b) greater than one
(c) greater than ten (d) any real number

74. If $\log(2x-3) + \log(x+1) = 2 \log 5$, then the value of x will be:

- (a) 2.5 (b) 1.5 (c) -2.5 (d) -3.5

75. $\log_{10}(\sqrt{30}) + \log_{10}(\sqrt{\frac{10}{3}})$ is equal to:

- (a) 10 (b) 2 (c) 1 (d) .1

76. If a, b, c are any three natural numbers, then $a(b+c) = (a \times b) + (a \times c)$ is an example of:

- (a) the commutative law (b) the associative law
(c) the distributive law (d) none of the above

77. Which of the following give the correct factors of $4x^2 - (x^2 - 3)^2$?

1. $(x-2)(x-1)$ 2. $(x-1)(x+3)$
3. $(3-x)(x+1)$ 4. $(2x-1)(2x+3)$

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

Codes :

- (a) 1 and 3 (b) 2 and 4
(c) 2 and 3 (d) 1, 2 and 3

78. The remainder when $2x^3 - 3x^2 + 4x - 1$ is divided by $x - 1$ is:

- (a) -10 (b) 2 (c) -1 (d) 10

79. If $x + \frac{1}{x} = \sqrt{3}$, then $x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3}$ is equal to:

- (a) 0 (b) 1 (c) 3 (d) $3\sqrt{3}$

80. One of the factors of $x^3 + 6x^2 + 11x + 6$ is:

- (a) $(x - \frac{1}{2})$ (b) $(x + \frac{1}{2})$ (c) $(x - 1)$ (d) $(x + 1)$

81. If the polynomial $x^3 - 3x^2 + kx + 42$ is divisible by $x + 3$, then the value of k will be:

- (a) +4 (b) +14 (c) -4 (d) -14

82. If P and Q are two expressions with HCF H , then their LCM L will be:

- (a) $L = \frac{PH}{Q}$ (b) $L = \frac{QH}{P}$ (c) $L = \frac{PQ}{H}$ (d) $L = \frac{H}{PQ}$

83. The HCF and LCM of the polynomials $x - 2, x^2 - 4$ are respectively:

- (a) 1, $x - 2$ (b) $x - 2, 8$
(c) $x - 2, x + 2$ (d) $x - 2, x^2 - 4$

84. If R and S are two rational expressions, then consider the following statements:

1. $R^2 - S^2 = (R + S)(R - S)$.
2. $R^3 - S^3 = (R + S)(R^2 - RS + S^2)$.

Of these statements :

- (a) 1 and 2 are correct (b) 1 alone is correct
(c) 2 alone is correct (d) none of the above

85. If $a + b + c = 0$, then $a^3 + b^3 + c^3$ is equal to:

- (a) $a^2(b+c) + b^2(c+a) + c^2(a+b)$
(b) $3(b+c)(c+a)(a+b)$

(c) $3abc$ (d) $6a^2b^2c^2$

86 The solution of the equations

$$2x - \frac{3}{y} = 12 \text{ and } 5x + \frac{7}{y} = 1 \text{ is}$$

(a) $x = 3, y = -1$ (b) $x = -\frac{1}{2}, y = 2$

(c) $x = 3, y = -\frac{1}{2}$ (d) $x = 2, y = -\frac{1}{2}$

87 The solution for the simultaneous linear equations $x + 3y = 5$ and $3x - 2y = 1$ is

(a) (0, 0) (b) (1, 0) (c) (0, 1) (d) (1, 1)

88 The sum of the digits of a two-digit number is 10. The tens digit is 2 less than the square of the units digit. The number is between

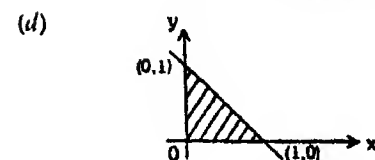
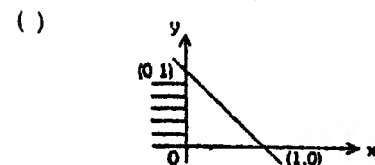
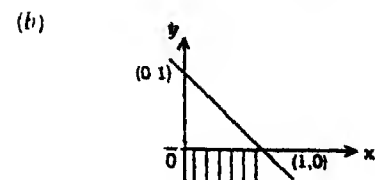
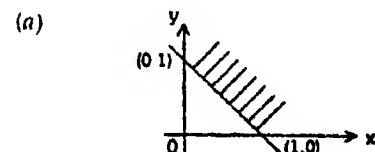
(a) 40 and 50 (b) 50 and 60
(c) 60 and 70 (d) 70 and 80

89 If two is added to both the numerator and the denominator of a fraction it becomes $\frac{3}{5}$. If one is subtracted from the denominator, the fraction becomes $\frac{1}{2}$. The fraction is

(a) $\frac{2}{3}$ (b) $\frac{1}{4}$ (c) $\frac{1}{3}$ (d) $\frac{1}{10}$

90 The graph of the inequations

$x > 0, y > 0$ and $x + y < 1$, shown by the shaded figure is



91 The inequality $|2x + 5| \leq x + 3$ holds when

(a) $-\frac{5}{2} \leq x \leq -2$ (b) $-\frac{8}{3} \leq x \leq -\frac{5}{2}$

(c) $-\frac{5}{2} \leq x \leq -2$ and $-\frac{8}{3} \leq x \leq -\frac{5}{2}$

(d) none of the above

92 The sum of the squares of two consecutive natural numbers is greater than the product of these numbers by 57. The sum of these numbers is

(a) 15 (b) -15 (c) -1 (d) 1

93 If $16(2^x + 2^{-x}) = 257$, then x is equal to

(a) 16 or $\frac{1}{16}$ (b) -16 or $-\frac{1}{16}$

(c) 4 or -4 (d) 4 or $\frac{1}{4}$

94 The inequality $x^2 - 2x + 1 < 0$

represents the set of values given by

(a) $\{x \mid x < 1\}$ (b) $\{x \mid x > 1\}$

(c) $\{1\}$ (d) \emptyset

95 If $a^m = (a^n)^n$, then the value of m is

(a) n (b) $\frac{1}{n^{n-1}}$ (c) $\frac{n}{n^{n-1}}$ (d) $\frac{n-1}{n^n}$

96 The value of

$$(x^{b-c})^{b+c} (x^{c-a})^{c+a} (x^{a-b})^{a+b} \text{ is}$$

(a) 0 (b) x (c) 1 (d) $x + 1$

97 If $2^x = 4^y = 8^z$ and $\frac{1}{2x} + \frac{1}{4y} + \frac{1}{6z} = \frac{24}{7}$, then the value of z is

(a) $\frac{7}{16}$ (b) $\frac{7}{48}$ (c) $\frac{7}{32}$ (d) $\frac{7}{64}$

98 For any two sets A, B , $A \cap (A \cup B)$, is equal to

(a) B (b) A (c) $A \cap B$ (d) $A \cup B$

99 If A, B, C are any three sets, then $A \cap (B \cup C)$ is equal to

(a) $(A \cap B) \cup C$ (b) $(A \cap B) \cap C$
(c) $(A \cup B) \cup C$ (d) $(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$

100 If $A = \{2, 3\}$ and $B = \{x \mid x \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } x < 3\}$ then $A \times B$ is

(a) $\{(2, 1), (2, 2), (3, 1), (3, 2)\}$ (b) $\{(1, 2), (1, 3), (2, 2)\}$
(c) $\{(1, 2), (2, 2), (3, 3), (3, 2)\}$ (d) none of the above

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1 (a) $\cos 60^\circ + \sin 30^\circ + \cos^2 30^\circ = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{7}{4}$

2 (d) $1 + \tan^2 30^\circ = \sec^2 30^\circ = \left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}\right)^2 = \frac{4}{3}$

3 (c) $x^2 + y^2 = (a \cos \theta + b \sin \theta)^2 + (a \sin \theta + b \cos \theta)^2$
 $= a^2 \cos^2 \theta + b^2 \sin^2 \theta + 2ab \sin \theta \cos \theta + a^2 \sin^2 \theta$
 $+ b^2 \cos^2 \theta - 2ab \sin \theta \cos \theta$
 $= a^2 (\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta) + b^2 (\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta)$
 $= a^2 + b^2 \quad [\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta = 1]$

4 (b) 5. (b)

$$6. (d) \frac{\tan 30^\circ + \tan 60^\circ}{1 - \tan 30^\circ \tan 60^\circ} = \tan 90^\circ = \text{Infinity}$$

$$7. (b) \sin(A - B) = \frac{1}{2} = \sin 30^\circ \therefore A - B = 30^\circ \dots (i)$$

$$\sin A = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \sin 45^\circ \therefore A = 45^\circ \quad 45^\circ - B = 30^\circ$$

$$\therefore B = 15^\circ$$

$$8. (b) 4 \sin^2 x - 1 = 0 \therefore \sin^2 x = \frac{1}{4} = \sin^2 30^\circ$$

$$\therefore x = n\pi \pm 30^\circ, n \in \mathbb{I}$$

$$x = 30^\circ, 150^\circ, 210^\circ, 330^\circ \text{ which belong to } 0 < n < 2\pi$$

$$9. (b) \sqrt{\sec^2 A + \operatorname{cosec}^2 A} = \sqrt{1 + \tan^2 A + 1 + \cot^2 A}$$

$$= \sqrt{\tan^2 A + \cot^2 A + 2}$$

$$= \sqrt{(\tan A + \cot A)^2} = \tan A + \cot A$$

$$(\tan A \cdot \cot A = 1)$$

$$10. (a) \sec^6 \theta - \tan^6 \theta - 3 \sec^2 \theta \tan^2 \theta$$

$$= \sec^6 \theta - \tan^6 \theta - 3 \sec^2 \theta \tan^2 \theta (\sec^2 \theta - \tan^2 \theta)$$

$$= (\sec^2 \theta - \tan^2 \theta)^3 = 1^3 = 1 \quad [\because \sec^2 \theta - \tan^2 \theta = 1]$$

$$11. (a) \frac{\cos x + \sin x}{\cos x} = \sqrt{2} \Rightarrow 1 + \tan x = \sqrt{2} \text{ or } \tan x = \sqrt{2} - 1$$

$$\cot x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} - 1} = \sqrt{2} + 1 \text{ or } \cot x - 1 = \sqrt{2}$$

$$\frac{\cos x - \sin x}{\sin x} = \sqrt{2}$$

$$12. (b) \sec \theta + \tan \theta = 1 + \sqrt{2} \dots (i)$$

$$\sec^2 \theta - \tan^2 \theta = 1 \dots (ii)$$

Dividing (ii) by (i),

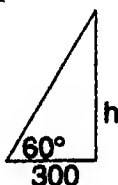
$$\sec \theta - \tan \theta = \frac{1}{1 + \sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{2} - 1 \dots (iii)$$

Adding (i) and (ii) we get $\sec \theta = \sqrt{2}$

$$13. (b)$$

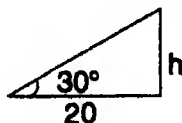
$$14. (b) \frac{h}{300} = \tan 60^\circ = \sqrt{3}$$

$$\therefore h = 300\sqrt{3}$$



$$15. (a) \frac{h}{20} = \tan 30^\circ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$\therefore h = \frac{20}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{20\sqrt{3}}{3}$$



$$16. (a) \quad 17. (d) \quad 18. (c)$$

$$19. (a) l \text{ and } m \text{ are intersecting and } p \parallel l \therefore m \text{ not } \parallel \text{ to } p$$

$$\therefore m \text{ and } p \text{ intersect, } q \parallel m \therefore p \text{ not } \parallel \text{ to } q$$

$$\therefore p \text{ and } q \text{ intersect [} \because \text{ Two intersecting lines both can't be parallel to same st. line}]$$

$$20. (b)$$

$$21. (c) \because EF \parallel CD \therefore \angle FEC + \angle ECD = 180^\circ$$

$$\text{or } \angle FEC + 30^\circ = 180^\circ \therefore \angle FEC = 150^\circ$$

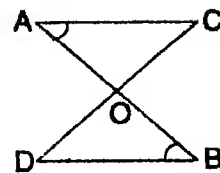
$$22. (d)$$

$$23. (a) \triangle AOC \cong \triangle BOD \text{ (by sss cong. rule)}$$

$$\angle OAC = \angle OBD \text{ (CPCT)}$$

But these are alt \angle s

$$\therefore AC \parallel BD$$



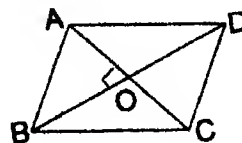
$$24. (b) \because \triangle ABC \sim \triangle DEF$$

$$\therefore \frac{AB}{DE} = \frac{BC}{EF} \text{ or } \frac{AB}{3} = \frac{20}{5} \Rightarrow AB = 12$$

$$25. (d) \quad 26. (a)$$

$$27. (c) AB = \sqrt{\left(\frac{16}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{12}{2}\right)^2}$$

$$= 10 \text{ cm}$$



$$28. (a) \quad 29. (a) \quad 30. (d)$$

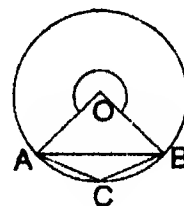
$$31. (a) \angle 1 = 2 \angle ACB = 2 \times 120^\circ = 240^\circ$$

$$\therefore \angle AOB = 360^\circ - 240^\circ = 120^\circ$$

Area of smaller segment

$$= \frac{120}{360} \times \pi R^2 - \frac{1}{2} R^2 \sin 120^\circ$$

$$= \frac{\pi R^2}{3} - \frac{1}{2} R^2 \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} = \frac{R^2}{12} (4\pi - 3\sqrt{3})$$



$$32. (d) \theta \text{ radians} = \left(\frac{180\theta}{\pi}\right)$$

Area of smaller segment

$$= \frac{180\theta}{\pi \times 360} \times \pi R^2 - \frac{1}{2} R^2 \sin \theta = \frac{R^2}{2} (\theta - \sin \theta)$$

Area of bigger segment

$$= \pi R^2 - \frac{R^2}{2} (\theta - \sin \theta) = \frac{R^2}{2} (2\pi - \theta + \sin \theta)$$

$$33. (d) \text{ Side of an isosceles } \triangle$$

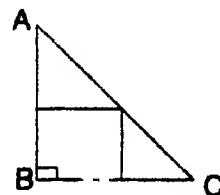
$$= \sqrt{2 \times 800} = 40 \quad \frac{1}{2} a^2 = 800$$

\therefore Side of greatest possible

$$\text{square} = \frac{40}{2} = 20$$

$$\therefore \text{Diagonal} = \sqrt{2} \cdot a = \sqrt{2} \times 20$$

$$= 20\sqrt{2}$$



$$34. (b)$$

$$35. (d) \text{ Reqd difference} = 2\pi R - 2\pi r = 2\pi (R - r)$$

$$= 2\pi \times 10 = 20\pi$$

$$36. \text{ Area of shaded region}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \pi \left(\frac{AC}{2}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \pi \left(\frac{AB}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \pi \left(\frac{BE}{2}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \pi \left(\frac{CD}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \pi \left(\frac{DE}{2}\right)^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \pi \left[\left(\frac{10.5}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{7}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{17.5}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{7}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{7}{2}\right)^2\right]$$

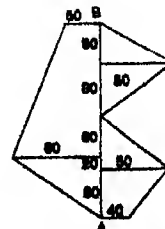
$$= \frac{1}{16} \pi \times 35 \times 21 = \frac{35 \times 21}{16} \pi$$

$$37. (c) \text{ Reqd area}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (50 + 40) \times 80 + \frac{1}{2} \times 80 \times 50$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} \times 80 \times 50 + \frac{1}{2} \times 60 \times 50$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} (50 + 60) 200 + \frac{1}{2} \times 100 \times 60$$

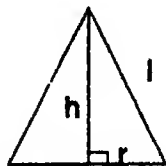


$$= 3600 + 2000 + 2000 + 1500 + 11000 + 3000$$

$$= 23100 \text{ sq m}$$

38. (a) $\pi r^2 = \pi r l \Rightarrow r = l$

which is impossible



39. (d) New vol. of cone = $\frac{1}{3} \pi (3r)^2 \times 3h = 27 \times \frac{1}{3} \pi r^2 h$

Reqd. ratio = $27 \times \frac{1}{3} \pi r^2 h : \frac{1}{3} \pi r^2 h = 27 : 1 = 27$

40. (a)

41. (b) Side faces OAB and OCD are equilateral Δ s and ODA and OCB are rt Δ s

$l = OP = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} a$

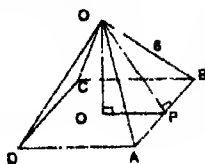
$= \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \times 6 = 3\sqrt{3} \text{ m}$ Height = OQ

$AD = \sqrt{6^2 + 6^2} \therefore QP = 3\sqrt{2} \text{ m}$
 $= 6\sqrt{2} \text{ m}$

$OQ = \sqrt{(3\sqrt{3})^2 - (3\sqrt{2})^2} = 3 \text{ m}$

Base area = $AB \times AD = 6 \times 6\sqrt{2} = 36\sqrt{2} \text{ m}^2$

Vol. of pyramid = $\frac{1}{3} \times (\text{area of base}) \times \text{height}$
 $= \frac{1}{3} \times 36\sqrt{2} \times 3 = 36\sqrt{2} \text{ m}^3$



42. (a) Sphere cylinder cone

$4\pi r^2 = 2\pi r(h+r) = \pi r(r+l)$

Taking I and II, $r = h$

$\therefore 4\pi r^2 = \pi r(r+l)$

Ratio of heights

$3r = l \therefore H = \sqrt{l^2 - r^2}$

$= 2r : h : H = 2r : r : 2\sqrt{2}r$

$= 2 : 1 : 2\sqrt{2}$

$= \sqrt{9r^2 - r^2}$
 $= 2\sqrt{2}r$

43. (b) As the sphere exactly fits inside a cylinder

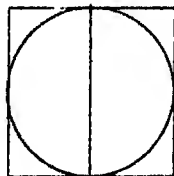
\therefore Height of cylinder = $2r$

Vol. of empty space

$= \pi r^2 h - \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3$

$= \pi r^2 (2r) - \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3 = \frac{2}{3} \pi r^3$

Reqd. ratio = $\frac{2}{3} \pi r^3 : \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3 = 1 : 2$



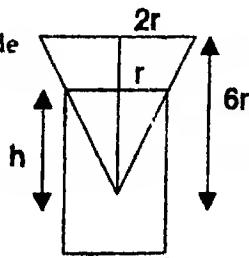
44. (a) $\frac{r}{2r} = \frac{h}{6r} \therefore h = 3r$

Vol. of portion of cone outside the cylinder

$= \frac{1}{3} \pi (2r)^2 \times 6r - \frac{1}{3} \pi r^2 \times h$

$= \frac{1}{3} \pi \times 4r^2 \times 6r - \frac{1}{3} \pi r^2 \times 3r$

$= 7\pi r^3$



45. (b) $AB = AC = l$, $AQ \perp BC \therefore BQ = QC = r$

$AP : PQ = (b+c) : a$ (P, centre of sphere)

$AQ = \sqrt{l^2 - r^2}$

Let $PQ = R$

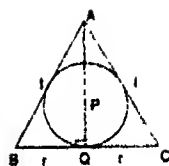
$AP : PQ = (l+l) : 2r$ or $\frac{PQ}{AP} = \frac{2r}{2l}$

$\frac{r}{l} \cdot \frac{PQ}{AP+PQ} = \frac{r}{l+r}$

$\frac{PQ}{AQ} = \frac{r}{l+r}$

$\frac{R}{\sqrt{l^2 - r^2}} = \frac{r}{l+r} \therefore R = \frac{r}{l+r} \times \sqrt{l^2 - r^2} = r \sqrt{\frac{l-r}{l+r}}$

Vol. of sphere = $\frac{4}{3} \pi R^3 = \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3 \left(\frac{l-r}{l+r}\right)^{3/2}$



46. (a)

51. (c)

56. (b)

47. (d)

52. (b)

53. (d)

48. (b)

53. (d)

54. (b)

49. (d)

54. (b)

55. (c)

50. (d)

55. (c)

	Re	50 paise	25 paise
Ratio of values of coins	5	4	1
Ratio of no. of coins	5x1	4x2	1x4 = 5:8:4

No. of one Re coins = $\frac{5}{17} \times 340 = 100$

No. of 50 paise coins = $\frac{8}{17} \times 340 = 160$

No. of 25 paise coins = $\frac{4}{17} \times 340 = 80$

57. (d) $D = S \times T$

Reqd. distance = $40 \times 4 + 35 \times 4 - 200 = 100 \text{ km}$

58. (c) A's one day's work = $\frac{1}{9}$

\therefore B is 50% more efficient than A

\therefore B's one day's work = $\frac{1}{9} \times \frac{150}{100} = \frac{1}{6}$

\therefore B will do the work in 6 days

59. (b) Reqd. reduction = $\frac{10 \times 100}{100 + 10} = 9\frac{1}{11}\%$

60. (a) C.P. of cow for Ram = $900 \times \frac{100}{100 + 25} \times \frac{100}{100 + 20}$
 $= \text{Rs } 600$

61. (c) $[P(1 + \frac{10}{100})^2 - P] - P \times \frac{10}{100} \times 2 = 24 \therefore P = \text{Rs } 2400$

62. (b) $2P = P(1 + \frac{r}{100})^4 \therefore 2 = (1 + \frac{r}{100})^4$

$2^4 = [(1 + \frac{r}{100})^4]^4$

or $16P = P(1 + \frac{r}{100})^{16} \therefore$ Reqd. time = 16 years

63. (b) Let cost of 1 book be Rs x and that of 1 pen be Rs y

$\frac{x}{y} = \frac{3}{2} \therefore y = \frac{2}{3}x$

A.T.S. $10x + 6 \times \frac{2}{3}x = 63 \therefore x = 4.50$

64. (d) Ques. of inverse proportion

Weeks	Ration per head
40	1.750 kg
x	2 kg $\therefore x = \frac{40 \times 1.750}{2} = 35$

65. (c)

66. (a) Dividend = $56 \times Q + 29 = 8 \times 7 \times Q + 8 \times 3 + 5$

$$\text{Remainder} = 5 \quad \frac{29}{8} = 3\frac{5}{8}$$

67. (c) If $r = 0$, $4n + r$ will be a multiple of 4, which is not prime

If $r = 2$, $4n + r$ will be a multiple of 2 which will not include odd primes

Only $r = 1, r = 3$ satisfy the reqd condition

68. (b) n is a multiple of 3, it may be even or odd

If n is odd, $n + 1$ is even and if n is even, $n + 1$ is odd

$\therefore n(n+1)(n+2)$ is always divisible by 6

69. (d) 70. (d) 71. (c)

72. (c) Given $\exp = 3 \log C - \log 2 + 4 \log C + \frac{3}{2} \log C$

$$+ \log 2 - \frac{1}{2} \log C = 8 \log C$$

73. (b)

74. (d) $\log(2x-3)(x+1) = \log 5^2$

$$\therefore (2x-3)(x+1) = 5^2 \text{ or } x = -3.5, 4$$

75. (c) $\log_{10}(\sqrt{30} \times \sqrt{\frac{10}{3}}) = \log_{10} 10 = 1$

76. (c)

77. (c) $(2x)^2 - (x^2 - 3)^2 = (2x - x^2 + 3)(2x + x^2 - 3)$

$$= (-x^2 + 2x + 3)(x^2 + 2x - 3)$$

$$= (x+1)(3-x)(x+3)(x-1)$$

78. (b) Let $p(x) = 2x^3 - 3x^2 + 4x - 1$

Divisor = $x - 1$

$$R = p(1) = 2(1)^3 - 3(1)^2 + 4(1) - 1 = 2$$

79. (a) $x + \frac{1}{x} = \sqrt{3}$ Cubing, $x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3} + 3 \times x \times \frac{1}{x} \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right) = 3\sqrt{3}$

$$x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3} + 3 \times \sqrt{3} = 3\sqrt{3} \therefore x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3} = 0$$

80. (d) Let $p(x) = x^3 + 6x^2 + 11x + 6 \therefore p(-1) = 0$

$\therefore x + 1$ is a factor of $p(x)$

81. (c) $p(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 + kx + 42$

$\therefore p(x)$ is divisible by $x + 3 \therefore p(-3) = 0$

$$(-3)^3 - 3(-3)^2 + k(-3) + 42 = 0 \therefore k = -4$$

82. (c) 83. (d)

84. (b) 85. (c)

86. (c) 87. (d)

88. (d) Let the digit at unit's place be x

\therefore the digit at ten's place = $10 - x$

$$\text{A.T.S. } 10 - x = x^2 - 2$$

$$\text{or } x^2 + x - 12 = 0 \Rightarrow (x+4)(x-3) = 0$$

$$\therefore x = 3 \text{ (rejecting } x = -4)$$

\therefore Reqd. no. = 73 which lies between 70 and 80.

89. (c) $\frac{x+2}{y+2} = \frac{3}{5} \dots (i)$

$$\frac{x}{y-1} = \frac{1}{2} \dots (ii)$$

Solving (i) and (ii) we get $x = 1, y = 3$

$$\therefore \text{The reqd fraction} = \frac{1}{3}$$

90. (d)

91. (d) When $2x + 5 \geq 0, |2x + 5| = 2x + 5$

$$\therefore 2x + 5 \leq x + 3 \text{ or } x \leq -2 \dots (i)$$

When $2x + 5 < 0, |2x + 5| = -(2x + 5)$

$$\therefore -(2x + 5) \leq x + 3 \text{ or } 2x + 5 \geq -(x + 3)$$

$$2x + 5 \geq -x - 3 \text{ or } 3x \geq -8 \text{ or } x \geq -\frac{8}{3}$$

$$\text{or } -\frac{8}{3} \leq x \dots (ii)$$

$$\text{From (i) and (ii) } -\frac{8}{3} \leq x \leq -2$$

92. (a) $x^2 + (x+1)^2 = x(x+1) + 57 \therefore x = 7$

rejecting $x = -8$ as $x \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\therefore \text{The reqd nos. are 7 and 8} \therefore \text{Sum} = 7 + 8 = 15$$

93. (c) Let $2^x = y \quad 16(y + \frac{1}{y}) = 257$

$$\therefore 16y^2 - 25y + 16 = 0 \quad (y-16)(16y-1) = 0$$

$$y = 16, \frac{1}{16} \quad 2^x = y = 16 = 2^4 \therefore x = 4$$

$$\text{When } y = \frac{1}{16} \quad 2^x = \frac{1}{16} = \frac{1}{2^4} = 2^{-4} \therefore x = -4$$

94. (d) $x^2 - 2x + 1 < 0 \Rightarrow (x-1)^2 < 0$ which is not true as square of a no. can't be -ve

95. (b) $a^m = (a^m)^n \Rightarrow a^m = (a)^{mn} \Rightarrow m^n = mn$

$$\text{or } \frac{m^n}{m} = n \Rightarrow m^{n-1} = n \text{ or } m = n^{\frac{1}{n-1}}$$

96. (c) $(x^{b-c})^{b+c} \cdot (x^{c-a})^{c+a} \cdot (x^{a-b})^{a+b}$
 $= x^{b^2-c^2} \cdot x^{c^2-a^2} \cdot x^{a^2-b^2} = x^{b^2-c^2+c^2-a^2+a^2-b^2} = x^0 = 1$

97. (b) $2^x = 4^y = 8^z \Rightarrow 2^x = (2^2)^y = (2^3)^z \Rightarrow 2^x = 2^{2y} = 2^{3z}$

$$\therefore x = 2y = 3z$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{2x} + \frac{1}{4y} + \frac{1}{6z} = \frac{1}{2 \times 3z} + \frac{1}{4(\frac{3z}{2})} + \frac{1}{6z} = \frac{24}{7}$$

$$\text{or } \frac{1}{6z} + \frac{1}{6z} + \frac{1}{6z} = \frac{24}{7} \therefore z = \frac{7}{48}$$

98. (b)

99. (d)

100. (a) $A = \{2, 3\}, B = \{1, 2\}$

$$\therefore A \times B = \{(2, 1), (2, 2), (3, 1), (3, 2)\}$$

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Combined Defence Services Exam, 29th October, 1995

Questions 1-60 had appeared in June 96 issue. The Balance questions along with answers are given below

COMPREHENSION

(Items 61 to 90)

Directions

In this Section you have six short passages. After each passage you will find five items based on the passage. First read Passage I and attempt the items based on it. Then go on to the next passage.

Examples I and J are solved for you.

Passage

In our approach to life be it pragmatic or otherwise a basic fact that confronts us squarely and unmistakably is the desire for peace, security and happiness. Different forms of life at different levels of existence make up the teeming denizens of this earth of ours. And no matter whether they belong to the higher groups such as human beings or to the lower groups such as animals, all beings primarily seek peace, comfort and security. Life is as dear to a mute creature as it is to a man. Even the lowliest insect strives for protection against dangers that threaten its life. Just as each one of us wants to live and not to die, so do all other creatures.

I The author's main point is that

- (a) different forms of life are found on earth
- (b) different levels of existence are possible in nature
- (c) peace and security are the chief goals of all living beings
- (d) even the weakest creature struggles to preserve its life

J Which one of the following assumptions or steps is essential in developing the author's position?

- (a) All forms of life have a single overriding goal
- (b) The will to survive of a creature is identified with a desire for peace
- (c) All beings are divided into higher and lower groups

- (d) A parallel is drawn between happiness and life and pain and death

Explanation

I The idea which represents the author's main point is peace and security are the chief goals of all living beings which is response (c). So 'c' is the correct answer.

J The best assumption underlying the passage is 'The will to survive of a creature is identified with a desire for peace' which is response (b). So 'b' is the correct answer.

Now attempt items 61 to 90

Passage I

Speech is a great blessing but it can also be a great curse. For while it helps us to make our intentions and desires known to our fellows, it can also, if we use it carelessly, make our attitude completely misunderstood. A slip of the tongue, the use of an unusual word, or of an ambiguous word and so on, may create an enemy where we had hoped to win a friend. Again, different classes of people use different vocabularies, and the ordinary speech of an educated man may strike an uneducated listener as pompous. Unwittingly we may use a word which bears a different meaning to our listener from what it does to men of our own class. Thus speech is not a gift to use lightly without thought, but one which demands careful handling. Only a fool will express himself alike to all kinds and conditions of men.

61 Speech can be a curse, because it can

- (a) hurt others
- (b) lead to carelessness
- (c) create misunderstanding
- (d) reveal our intentions

62 The best way to win a friend is to avoid

- (a) irony in speech
- (b) pomposity in speech
- (c) verbosity in speech
- (d) ambiguity in speech

63 A 'slip of the tongue' means something said

- (a) wrongly by chance
- (b) unintentionally
- (c) without giving proper thought
- (d) to hurt another person

64 While talking to an uneducated person, we should use

- (a) ordinary speech
- (b) his vocabulary
- (c) simple words
- (d) polite language

65 If one used the same style of language with everyone one would sound

- (a) flat
- (b) boring
- (c) foolish
- (d) democratic

Passage II

After submitting his resignation, Albert came out and took the long narrow road leading to the railway station which was one of the busiest roads in the city. Sad and depressed and worried about looking for a new job, Albert looked around for a cigarette shop. He walked up to the end of the road but found no tobacconist. It was odd that such a busy thoroughfare with thousands of people passing through did not even have a single cigarette shop. He suddenly felt that it was no longer necessary for him to hunt for a job. He decided to open a tobacco shop himself. It was bound to be profitable, he felt.

66 Albert was sad and depressed because

- (a) he was not able to buy cigarettes
- (b) he was worried about finding a job
- (c) he had had to walk on a long road
- (d) he had no money for the train journey

67 After submitting his resignation Albert came out worrying about

- (a) a job
- (b) cigarettes
- (c) a shelter
- (d) the next available train

68. Albert decided not to look for a new job because

- (a) he did not want to work at all
- (b) there was no hope of finding a job
- (c) the thought of having to look for a job greatly distressed him
- (d) he saw the possibility of self-employment

69. A cigarette shop on a busy road was bound to be profitable because

- (a) cigarettes are inexpensive items and people buy them willingly
- (b) cigarette shops are known to make a great deal of profit
- (c) a cigarette shop on a busy road would attract a large number of customers
- (d) any shop on a busy street would attract a large number of customers

70. There was no cigarette shop on that road because

- (a) it was a very narrow road
- (b) smoking is banned in that area
- (c) cigarette-shop owners do not make any profit
- (d) just by chance nobody had opened one on that road

Passage III

Sometimes we went off the road and on a path through the pine forest. The floor of the forest was soft to walk on; the frost did not harden it as it did the road. But we did not mind the hardness of the road because we had nails in the soles and heels of our boots and the heel nails bit on the frozen ruts and with nailed boots it was good walking on the road and invigorating. It was lovely walking in the woods.

71. Sometimes we walked through the pine forest as

- (a) the path was unaffected by the frost
- (b) it was good walking with nails in the boots
- (c) the walk was invigorating
- (d) it was sheer joy to walk in the forest

72. The floor of the forest was soft because

- (a) the frost did not harden it on account of trees
- (b) the travellers were wearing boots
- (c) the shoes had nails on their

sole and heel

- (d) they enjoyed walking in the woods

73. We did not mind the hardness of the road because

- (a) we had nailed boots on
- (b) it was good walking on the road
- (c) the walk was refreshing
- (d) the nails bit on the frozen roads

74. 'Frozen ruts' means

- (a) very cold roads
- (b) wheel marks in which frost had become hard
- (c) the road covered with frost
- (d) hard roads covered with snow

75. We found great joy on account of

- (a) wearing nailed boots
- (b) the good long walk on the road
- (c) walking occasionally through the forest
- (d) walking on frost with nailed boots on

Passage IV

Most of us are not very good listeners. We tend to believe that at meetings we shall be judged by the amount we can contribute in sheer volume of words rather than how much we absorb other people's ideas. When we are listening, or think we are, we find it almost impossible to stop talking to ourselves. We assume that what the other person is saying is dreary and pointless. We don't open our mouth, of course, because that is just plain bad manners; but we do tend to use our listening moment to work out and rehearse what we hope to say. Again and again at meetings you will hear people hotly denouncing views that have never been put forward or defending to the last breath those that have never been attacked. We live in a competitive world and most of us are concerned with putting our own ideas across or beating the other in argument about their ideas.

76. At meetings, we believe we shall be judged by the

- (a) number of questions we put to the speaker
- (b) noise we make while others are speaking
- (c) volume of words we contribute

- (d) amount of ideas we absorb from others

77. "It is just plain bad manners". This refers to

- (a) talking to ourselves
- (b) using offensive language
- (c) sleeping soundly while somebody is talking
- (d) interrupting the speaker frequently

78. Often at times, you will hear people hotly denouncing

- (a) views held universally
- (b) views that have never been put forward
- (c) absurd arguments put forward by others
- (d) views that are opposed to their own

79. "defending to the last breath" means

- (a) refusing to yield before enemy attack
- (b) trying to save somebody from an attack of breathlessness
- (c) sacrificing one's own life for defending positions on the battle front
- (d) desperately defending or supporting arguments or points of view

80. "dreary" in the present context means

- (a) humorous (b) lively
- (c) provocative
- (d) uninteresting

Passage V

At this stage of the civilization, when many nations are brought into close and vital contact for good and evil, it is essential, as never before, that their gross ignorance of one another should be diminished, that they should begin to understand a little of one another's historical experience and resulting mentality. It is a fault of the English to expect the people of other countries to react as they do, to political and international situations. Our genuine goodwill and good intentions are often brought to nothing, because we expect other people to be like us. This would be corrected if we knew the history, not necessarily in detail but in broad outlines, of the social and political conditions which have given to each nation its present character.

81. The need for a greater understanding between nations

- (a) was always there
- (b) is no longer there
- (c) is more today than ever before
- (d) will always be there

82. According to the author the 'mentality' of a nation is mainly a product of its

- (a) history
- (b) international position
- (c) politics
- (d) present character

83. Englishmen like others to react to political situations like

- (a) us
- (b) themselves
- (c) others
- (d) each other

84. According to the author his countrymen should

- (a) read the history of other nations
- (b) have a better understanding of other nations
- (c) not react to other nations
- (d) have vital contacts with other nations

85. The character of a nation is the result of its

- (a) mentality
- (b) cultural heritage
- (c) gross ignorance
- (d) socio-political conditions

Passage VI

Courage is not only the basis of all virtue; it is its expression. Faith, hope, charity and all the rest don't become virtues until it takes courage to exercise them. There are roughly two types of courage. The first, an emotional state which urges a man to risk injury or death, is physical courage. The second, a more reasoning attitude which enables him to take coolly his career, happiness, his whole future, or his judgement of what he thinks either right or worth-while, is moral courage.

I have known many men, who had marked physical courage, but lacked moral courage. Some of them were in high places, but they failed to be great in themselves because they lacked moral courage. On the other hand, I have seen men who undoubtedly possessed moral courage but were very cautious about taking physical risks. But I have never met a man with moral courage who couldn't, when it was really necessary, face a situation boldly.

86. A man of courage is

- (a) cunning
- (b) intelligent
- (c) curious
- (d) careful

87. All virtues become meaningful because of

- (a) faith
- (b) charity
- (c) courage
- (d) hope

88. Physical courage is an expression of

- (a) emotions
- (b) deliberation
- (c) uncertainty
- (d) defiance

89. A man with moral courage can

- (a) defy his enemies
- (b) overcome all difficulties
- (c) face a situation boldly
- (d) be very pragmatic

90. People with physical courage often lack

- (a) mental balance
- (b) capacity for reasoning
- (c) emotional stability
- (d) will to fight

ORDERING OF WORDS IN A SENTENCE

(Items 91 to 100)

Directions:

In each of the items 91 to 100, there is a sentence of which some parts have been jumbled up. You are required to re-arrange these parts which are labelled P, Q, R and S to produce the correct sentence. Choose the proper sequence and mark in your Answer Sheet accordingly.

Example Z: It is well known that

- (P) the effect
- (Q) is very bad
- (R) on children
- (S) of cinema.

The proper sequence should be

- (a) PSRQ
- (b) SPQR
- (c) SRPQ
- (d) QSRP

Explanation: The proper way of writing the sentence is 'It is well known that the effect of cinema on children is very bad.' This is indicated by the sequence P S R Q and so 'a' is the correct answer.

Now attempt items 91 to 100.

91. The national unity of a free people

- (P) to make it impracticable

(Q) for there to be an arbitrary administration

(R) depends upon a sufficiently even balance of political power

(S) against a revolutionary opposition that is irreconcilably opposed to it.

The proper sequence should be

- (a) QRPS
- (b) QRSP
- (c) RPQS
- (d) RSPQ

92. Little

(P) that he had been let down

(Q) stood by all these years

(R) did he realize

(S) by a colleague whom he had

The proper sequence should be

- (a) RPSQ
- (b) RSQP
- (c) QSRP
- (d) QSPR

93. There was

(P) needed for its everyday life

(Q) a time when each family

(R) for itself most of the things it

(S) actually produced.

The proper sequence should be

- (a) QRSP
- (b) RQPS
- (c) RSPQ
- (d) QSRP

94. We have to

(P) as we see it

(Q) speak the truth

(R) there is falsehood and darkness

(S) even if all around us.

The proper sequence should be

- (a) RQSP
- (b) QRPS
- (c) RSQP
- (d) QPSR

95. This majestic mahogany table

(P) belongs to an old prince

(Q) which has one leg missing

(R) who is now impoverished

(S) but not without some pride.

The proper sequence should be

- (a) PQSR
- (b) QRSP
- (c) PRSQ
- (d) QPRS

96. By this time

(P) at the railway station

(Q) reported mass looting

(R) reports of violence were flooding in

- (S) while police dispatches.
The proper sequence should be
(a) RSPQ
(b) SPRQ
(c) SQRP
(d) RSQP
97. It would
(P) appear from his statement
(Q) about the policy of the management
(R) in dealing with the strike
(S) that he was quite in the dark.
The proper sequence should be
(a) RPSQ
(b) PSQR
(c) RQPS
(d) PRQS
98. If you need help
(P) promptly and politely
(Q) ask for attendants
(R) to help our customers
(S) who have instructions.
The proper sequence should be
(a) SQPR
(b) QPSR
(c) QSRP
(d) SQRP
99. He was so kind and generous that
(P) he not only
(Q) made others do so
(R) but also
(S) helped them himself.
The proper sequence should be
(a) PSRQ
(b) SPQR
(c) PRSQ
(d) QPRS
100. People
(P) at his dispensary
(Q) went to him
(R) of all professions
(S) for medicine and treatment.
The proper sequence should be
(a) QPRS
(b) RPQS
(c) RQSP
(d) QRPS

ORDERING OF SENTENCES

(Items 101 to 105)

Directions:

In items 101 to 105 each passage consists of six sentences. The first and the sixth sentences are given in the beginning. The middle four sentences in each have been removed and jumbled up. These are labelled P, Q, R and S. You are required to find out the

proper order for the four sentences and mark accordingly on the Answer Sheet.

Example:

S₁: There was a boy named Jack.

S₆: At last she turned him out of the house.

P: So the mother asked him to find work.

Q: They were very poor.

R: He lived with his mother.

S: But Jack refused to work.

The proper sequence should be

(a) RQPS

(b) PQRS

(c) QPRS

(d) RPSQ

Explanation: The proper sequence in this Example is: R Q P S which is marked (a). Therefore 'a' is the correct answer.

Now attempt items 101 to 105.

101. S₁: Hungary, with a population of about ten million, lies between Czechoslovakia to the north and Yugoslavia to the south.

S₆: The new industries derive mainly from agricultural production.

P: Here a great deal of grain is grown.

Q: In recent years, however, progress has been made also in the field of industrialization.

R: Most of this country consists of an extremely fertile plain, through which the river Danube flows.

S: In addition to grain, the plain produces potatoes, sugar, wine and livestock.

The proper sequence should be

(a) QRSP

(b) RPSQ

(c) PRSQ

(d) RQSP

102. S₁: There is only one monkey we can thoroughly recommend as an indoor pet.

S₆: Finally, let me say that no other monkey has a better temper or more winning ways.

P: They quickly die from colds and coughs after the first winter fogs.

Q: It is the beautiful and intelligent Capuchin monkey.

R: The lively little Capuchins, however, may be left for years in an English house without the least danger to their health.

S: The Marmosets, it is true, are

more beautiful than the Capuchins and just as pleasing, but they are too delicate for the English climate.

The proper sequence should be

(a) PQRS

(b) QRPS

(c) QSPR

(d) RPSQ

103. S₁: There is a touching story of Professor Hardy visiting Ramanujan as he lay desperately ill in hospital at Putney.

S₆: It is the lowest number that can be expressed in two different ways as the sum of two cubes".

P: "No, Hardy, that is not a dull number in the very least.

Q: Hardy, who was a very shy man, could not find the words for his distress.

R: It was 1729.

S: The best he could do, as he got to the bedside was: "I say, Ramanujan, I thought the number of the taxi I came down in was a very dull number."

The proper sequence should be

(a) RPSQ

(b) QSRP

(c) QSPR

(d) SQRP

104. S₁: Growing up means not only getting larger, but also using our senses and our brains to become more aware of the things around us.

S₆: In other words, we must develop and use our ability to reason, because the destruction or the preservation of the places in which we live depends on us.

P: Not only does he have a memory but he is able to think and reason.

Q: In this, man differs from all other animals.

R: Before we spray our roadside plants or turn sewage into our rivers, we should pause to think what the results of our actions are likely to be.

S: That is to say, he is able to plan what he is going to do in the light of his experience before he does it.

The proper sequence should be

(a) QRSP

(b) SPQR

(c) SPRQ

(d) QPSR

105. S₁: But how does a new word get into the dictionary?

S₆: He sorts them according to their

grammatical function, and carefully writes a definition.

P: When a new dictionary is being edited, a lexicographer collects all the alphabetically arranged citation slips for a particular word.

Q: The dictionary makers notice it and make a note of it on a citation slip.

R: The moment a new word is coined, it usually enters the spoken language.

S: The word then passes from the realm of hearing to the realm of writing.

The proper sequence should be

- (a) PQRS
- (b) PRSQ
- (c) RQPS
- (d) RSQP

SELECTING WORDS

(Items 106 to 120)

Directions:

In the following passage (items 106 to 120) at certain points, you are given a choice of three words marked (a), (b), (c). Choose the best word from these three and indicate your choice in the relevant column of your Answer Sheet. Examples Z₁ and Z₂ have been solved for you.

Z₁. The

- (a) boy
- (b) horse
- (c) dog

was in the school in Shimla.

Z₂ (a) She

- (b) It
- (c) He

was homesick.

Explanation: Out of the list given in item Z₁, only 'boy' is the correct answer. So 'a' should be indicated as your response. For item Z₂ 'c' is the correct answer, because that is the pronoun which refers back to the noun 'boy'.

Now attempt items 106 to 120.

India will find herself again when freedom opens out new horizons. Future will then fascinate her far more than the immediate past of frustration and humiliation. She will go

- 106. (a) forward
- (b) up
- (c) in

with confidence, rooted in herself and yet eager to learn from others and co-operate with them. Today she swings

- 107. (a) among
- (b) between
- (c) amidst

a blind adherence to her old customs and a slavish imitation of foreign ways. In

- 108. (a) neither
- (b) either
- (c) both

of these can she find relief or life or growth. It is obvious that she has to come out of her

- 109. (a) groove
- (b) cell
- (c) shell

and take full part

- 110. (a) between
- (b) in
- (c) of

the life and activities of the modern age. It should be equally

- 111. (a) obvious
- (b) important
- (c) patent

that there can be no real cultural or spiritual growth based on imitation. Such imitation can only be

- 112. (a) confined
- (b) ascribed
- (c) linked

to a small number which cuts itself

- 113. (a) out
- (b) off
- (c) down

from the masses and the

- 114. (a) lakes
- (b) wells
- (c) springs

of national life. True culture derives its

- 115. (a) ideal
- (b) force
- (c) inspiration

from every corner of the world, but it is

- 116. (a) indigenous
- (b) home-grown
- (c) original

and has to be

- 117. (a) based
- (b) dependent
- (c) identified

on the wide mass of the people. Art and literature remain

- 118. (a) static
- (b) lifeless
- (c) inert

if they are

- 119. (a) blindly
- (b) rapidly
- (c) continually

thinking of foreign models. The day of a

- 120. (a) tribal
- (b) narrow
- (c) communal

culture confined to a small fastidious

group is past. We have to think in terms of the people generally, and their culture must be a continuation and development of past trends and also represent their new urges and creative tendencies.

ANSWERS

1. (d) No error.
2. (b) 'than the rain, heavy and stormy, rushed in'.
3. (b) 'we entered the room'.
4. (b) 'my tooth stopped aching'.
5. (b) 'the health and happiness'.
6. (b) 'waiting for'.
7. (c) 'won't you?'
8. (c) 'his dream now is to visit the moon'.
9. (a) 'The meeting was adjourned abruptly'.
10. (c) 'was allowed to go near the factory'.
11. (c) 'I would have helped him'.
12. (a) 'Mr Smith was accused of murder'.
13. (a) 'Unless you stop making noise at once'.
14. (a) 'He couldn't help'.
15. (d) No error.
16. (b)
17. (b)
18. (a)
19. (d)
20. (c)
21. (b)
22. (b)
23. (d)
24. (c)
25. (a)
26. (b)
27. (b)
28. (c)
29. (b)
30. (a)
31. (d)
32. (c)
33. (d)
34. (a)
35. (a)
36. (a)
37. (a)
38. (d)
39. (c)
40. (b)
41. (d)
42. (a)
43. (b)
44. (a)
45. (b)
46. (d)
47. (a)
48. (d)
49. (a)
50. (b)
51. (b)
52. (b)
53. (c)
54. (b)
55. (c)
56. (c)
57. (a)
58. (c)
59. (d)
60. (c)
61. (c)
62. (d)
63. (b)
64. (c)
65. (c)
66. (b)
67. (a)
68. (d)
69. (c)
70. (d)
71. (a)
72. (a)
73. (a)
74. (b)
75. (c)
76. (c)
77. (d)
78. (b)
79. (d)
80. (d)
81. (c)
82. (a)
83. (b)
84. (a)
85. (d)
86. (b)
87. (c)
88. (a)
89. (c)
90. (b)
91. (d)
92. (a)
93. (d)
94. (d)
95. (d)
96. (d)
97. (b)
98. (c)
99. (a)
100. (c)
101. (b)
102. (c)
103. (b)
104. (d)
105. (d)
106. (a)
107. (b)
108. (a)
109. (c)
110. (b)
111. (a)
112. (a)
113. (b)
114. (c)
115. (c)
116. (a)
117. (b)
118. (b)
119. (c)
120. (b)

GENERAL AWARENESS

The following questions were set in an examination held by Bihar Public Service Commission recently.

We are grateful to Mr Mohd Irshad of P.O. Ramna for sending these questions to us.

1. If you weigh 60 kg on this Earth your weight on the Moon will be:

- (a) 120 kg (b) 60 kg
(c) 30 kg (d) 10 kg

2. Genetic engineering is the term associated with:

- (a) Heavy engineering (b) Human breeding
(c) Chemical engineering (d) Medical treatment

3. The Planets on either side of the Earth are:

- (a) Mercury & Venus (b) Venus & Saturn
(c) Mars & Jupiter (d) Mars & Venus

4. The most abundant element on the earth crust is:

- (a) Silicon (b) Oxygen
(c) Aluminium (d) Calcium

5. The first scientist who demonstrated the circulation of blood was:

- (a) George Cuvier (b) Richard Owen
(c) Edward Tyson (d) William Harvey

6. Rickets is disease of bones caused by the deficiency of:

- (a) Vitamin A (b) Vitamin B
(c) Vitamin C (d) Vitamin D

7. The full form of D.D.T. is:

- (a) Dichloro-Dimethyl Trichloroethane
(b) Dichloro-Diethyl Trichloromethane
(c) Dichloro-Diphenyl Trichloromethane
(d) Dichloro-Diphenyl Trichloroethane

8. Gasohol is used as fuel for automobiles. It is:

- (a) Petrol (b) L.P.G.
(c) Diesel (d) mixture of alcohol & petrol

9. Which of the following is *not* true regarding stratosphere?

- (a) It is the lowest layer of atmosphere covering the earth
(b) It contains thick layer of Ozone
(c) It absorbs Ultra-violet radiation
(d) Its thickness is decreasing slowly

10. Location of the Death Valley is:

- (a) Sahara Desert (b) Kalahari Desert
(c) California State (d) None of these

11. Which City is known as Granite City

- (a) Aberdeen (b) Oxford
(c) Paris (d) London

12. Kabalega is a National Park of:

- (a) Uganda (b) U.S.A.
(c) Canada (d) Brazil

13. Leningrad is on the bank of:

- (a) Tiber river (b) Elba river
(c) Neva river (d) Clyde river

14. Tropical grassland of Africa is known as:

- (a) Steppes (b) Pampas
(c) Savannas (d) Prairies

15. The London type of Smog is that which:

- (a) contains nitrogen oxide, ozone, PAN etc.
(b) is effective in sunlight in the afternoon
(c) contains high concentration of sulphur dioxide
(d) is called photo chemical smog

16. You have to choose the correct sequence in decreasing order of wattage of these home appliances. (i) 0.5 H.P. Water pump : (ii) Mercury tube : (iii) Room heater : (iv) Neon bulb:

- (a) 3, 1, 2, 4. (b) 3, 2, 1, 4
(c) 2, 1, 3, 4 (d) 4, 2, 1, 3

17. L.P.G consists of mainly:

- (a) Methane, ethane, hexane
(b) Methane, ethane, nonane
(c) Methane, propane, butane
(d) Ethane, butane, hexane

18. Ganga when flows in Bangladesh, takes the name of.

- (a) Padma (b) Meghna
(c) Surma (d) Swam Ganga

19. The river that crosses the Equator twice is:

- (a) Amazon (b) Nile
(c) Congo (d) Niger

20. Diegogarcia Islands are located in:

- (a) S. Atlantic (b) N. Atlantic
(c) Indian Ocean (d) None of these

21. 'Sun belt' is in:

- (a) U.S.A. (b) Saudi Arab
(c) Sudan (d) Kenya

22. Largest district in India (in area) is:

- (a) Bundelkhand (b) Ranchi
(c) Bastar (d) Patiala

23. Farakka Barrage is constructed on:

- (a) Hooghly river (b) Ajay river
(c) Mahi river (d) None of these
24. Total area of India is approximately:
(a) 2.4% (b) 3.8%
(c) 4.5% (d) 5.0%
- of the World
25. Bihar was separated from Bengal on:
(a) 1st April 1912 (b) 1st April 1926
(c) 22nd Dec 1926 (d) 15th June 1938
26. The remains of the Harappan Culture were first found at:
(a) Mohenjo Daro (b) Harappa
(c) Chanhu Daro (d) Surkotada
27. The Charar-e-Sharif has been in the news recently. It is the shrine of the Sufi saint:
(a) Shah Nur-i-Alam (b) Baba Nuruddin
(c) Nur Satguru (d) Sheikh Nuruddin
28. The Wahabi Movement was started in India by:
(a) Muhammad bin Abdul Wahab
(b) Sir Syed Ahmad Khan
(c) Sayyad Ahmad of Rai Bareilly
(d) None of the above
29. Who was the founder of the *Azad Hind Fauj*?
(a) Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose
(b) Rash Behari Bose (c) both (a) and (b)
(d) neither (a) nor (b)
30. In which year was the Indian National Trade Union Congress founded?
(a) 1929 (b) 1937
(c) 1942 (d) 1947
31. "Mother India" was written by:
(a) V.D. Savarkar (b) Katherine Mayo
(c) Lala Lajpat Rai (d) None of the above
32. Who among the following has been sworn in as the new President of Greece?
(a) Andreas Papandreu
(b) Antony Karamanlis
(c) Anthony Mascarenhas
(d) Costis Stephanopoulos
33. The Italian Prime Minister who recently won a confidence vote in Parliament by a slender majority is:
(a) Renato Ruggiero (b) Lamberto Dini
(c) Silvio Berlusconi (d) None of the above
34. The Wills World Cup Cricket Tournament was hosted in 1996 by:
(a) India (b) Pakistan
(c) Sri Lanka (d) all the above
35. Which one of the following is *not* included in the *Triratna* of Jainism?

- (a) Right knowledge (b) Right faith
(c) Right speech (d) Right action
36. Who among the following film-personalities has not yet received the Dada Saheb Phalke Award for distinguished service to the film industry?
(a) Raj Kapoor (b) Naushad Ali
(c) Sunil Dutt (d) Ashok Kumar
37. The defence outlay proposed in the Union Budget for 1995-96 is:
(a) Rs 28,000 Crores (b) Rs 25,500 Crores
(c) Rs 30,000 Crores (d) Rs 22,000 Crores
38. The *Kalidas Samman* for 1994-95 in dance has been awarded to:
(a) Sandhya Mukherjee
(b) Shanta Rao
(c) T.T. Raman Kutty Nair
(d) None of the above
39. Recently Turkey invaded Kurdish Settlements in Iraq. Besides Turkey and Iraq which of the following countries also has a sizeable population of Kurds?
(a) Syria (b) Lebanon
(c) Iran (d) Afghanistan
40. What is the full form of the term "NAFTA"?
(a) North Atlantic Free Trade Association
(b) North American Free Trade Agreement
(c) North Atlantic Free Transport Association
(d) North American Free Trade Association
41. Name the U.N. diplomat who is exploring a peaceful solution for the present war in Afghanistan:
(a) Boutros Ghali (b) Mahmoud-Meistri
(c) Agha Khan (d) None of the above
42. There is presently a demand for the review of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. When was it first signed?
(a) 1954 (b) 1960
(c) 1964 (d) 1968
43. Name the capital of Slovenia:
(a) Prague (b) Ljubijana
(c) Bratislava (d) Honiara
44. The Economic Survey Report for 1994-95 maintains that the rate of growth for Indian Industry in the last year was:
(a) 6% (b) 8%
(c) 9.5% (d) 6.5%
45. The Centenary Beighton Cup Hockey Tournament was won by:
(a) Indian Railways (b) Tamil Nadu
(c) Indian Airlines (d) None of the above
46. Which of the following cities in Japan recently suffered from a major earthquake?
(a) Nagasaki (b) Kobe

(c) Hokaido (d) Tokyo
47. The Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for the year 1994 was given to:

- (a) Nelson Mandela
- (b) Bishop Desmond Tutu
- (c) Trevor Huddleston
- (d) Nomaza Paintin

48. The Olympic Games in the year 2000 are to be held at:

- (a) Beijing (b) Shanghai
- (c) Sydney (d) Canberra

49. The rise of the Magadhan empire can be traced back to the:

- (a) Haranyaka dynasty
- (b) Sunga dynasty
- (c) Nanda dynasty
- (d) Maurya dynasty

50. Red haematite is an ore of:

- (a) iron (b) copper
- (c) silver (d) mercury

The questions given below were set in Banking Service Recruitment Board (Madras) Probationary Officers' Examination, 1996

51. Which of the following institutions recently developed the first Robot in India named "PROGMAN 150"?

- (a) Centre for the Development of Advanced computing, Pune
- (b) Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore
- (c) Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay
- (d) Centre for Artificial Intelligence & Robots, Bangalore

52. Which of the following is the currency of Italy?

- (a) Dollar (b) Schilling
- (c) Rial (d) Lira

53. The change of seasons on earth is caused because of:

- (a) Earth revolving around its own axis
- (b) Moon revolving around the Earth
- (c) Earth revolving around the Sun
- (d) Sun revolving around its own axis

54. Manipur State touches the border of which country?

- (a) Pakistan (b) Nepal
- (c) Bangladesh (d) Myanmar

55. The Headquarters of SAARC is located in which city?

- (a) New Delhi (b) Colombo
- (c) Islamabad (d) Kathmandu

56. Which of the following Plants/Institutions of Indian Railways is located at Kapurthala?

- (a) Wheel and Axle Plant
- (b) Institute of Rail Transport

- (c) Rail Coach Factory
- (d) Diesel Locomotive Works

57. As part of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), the Central Government has proposed to set up a mini-ITL (Industrial Training Institute):

- (a) in every District (b) in every Block
- (c) in every Panchayat
- (d) in a cluster of three Blocks
- (e) in a cluster of five Panchayats

58. Jallianwala Bagh Massacre, 1919 occurred at which of the following places?

- (a) Meerut (b) Panipat
- (c) Amritsar (d) Patiala

59. At present, Indian nationals do not require visa for visiting which of the following countries?

- (a) Sri Lanka (b) Bhutan
- (c) Saudi Arabia (d) South Africa

60. The world's largest Personal Computer Network Service is provided by which of the following?

- (a) ERNET (b) Intel
- (c) Internet (d) Technet

61. Mr Renato Ruggiero is the Chief of which of the following international bodies?

- (a) IME (b) UNESCO
- (c) ASEAN (d) WHO
- (e) WTO

62. The Parliament of Switzerland is known as:

- (a) Majlis
- (b) National Council (or Federal Assembly)
- (c) Althing (d) Congress

63. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) has agreed to provide India a loan of 142 million dollars, to be spent by seven States, for setting up which of the following?

- (a) Surface or ground water hydrology projects
- (b) Small Scale Industries in semi-urban and rural areas.
- (c) Low cost housing projects in rural areas
- (d) Cold storages in semi-urban and rural areas
- (e) Krishi Vigyan Kendras in rural areas

64. Who among the following was conferred Mahatma Gandhi World Peace Award for the year 1995?

- (a) Archbishop Trevor Huddleston
- (b) Dr N.N. Drozlov
- (c) Jullius Nyrere
- (d) Gen Olusegun Okasanjo
- (e) Dr Hogen Fukunaga

65. Among which of the following countries won Sultar Azlan Shah Hockey Tournament held at Kuala Lumpur in 1995?

- (a) Germany (b) Holland
(c) Iran (d) India

66 President's rule was imposed in Uttar Pradesh when the Government of Bahujan Samaj Party headed by Mayawati resigned due to which of the following reasons?

- (a) When Samajwadi Party withdrew its support from Bahujan Samaj Party
(b) When Congress (I) withdrew its support from SP and BSP combine
(c) Due to Uttarakhand agitation government could not maintain law and order
(d) When Bharatiya Janata Party withdrew its support to Bahujan Samaj Party

67 For which of the following purposes 'Operation Sunshine' was launched by a country recently?

- (a) It was an army operation launched to flushout trained militants from Jammu & Kashmir border
(b) This operation was meant for complete eradication of Malaria and Polio from rural and urban areas
(c) It was a mass literacy programme launched for primary education for children below the age of eight
(d) It was rapid action by the scientists to fight against infectious disease by inventing new drugs
(e) This was an army operation launched by Government forces in Sri Lanka to attack ITTE militants in Jaffna

68 The comment "If the village perishes, India perishes, India will be no more her own mission will be lost" is said by whom?

- (a) Mahatma Gandhi
(b) Dadabhai Naoroji
(c) Sunderlal Bahuguna
(d) Rabindranath Tagore

69 At which place a "model town" is being set up with collaboration of Japan?

- (a) Gurgaon (b) Chandigarh
(c) Ambala (d) Hyderabad

70 "INVESTOR 95" was recently held at Jaipur organised by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) to attract investment in which sector?

- (a) Aviation (b) Tourism
(c) Telecommunication
(d) Power

71 Who among the following was author of the book 'Mritunjaya' which was conferred the Moortidevi Award for the year 1994?

- (a) Dr Dharmavir Bharti
(b) N Balram Amma
(c) Shrivaji Sawant
(d) Harbhajan Singh

72 "The National League of Democracy" a political organisation/party has been set up in which of following countries recently?

- (a) Sri Lanka (b) Nepal
(c) Myanmar (d) Bangladesh
(e) None of these

73 "Zurich" known as the financial capital market of Europe, is situated in which country?

- (a) France (b) Sweden
(c) Switzerland (d) USA
(e) None of these

74 Hage G Geingob who recently visited India belongs to which country?

- (a) Namibia (b) South Korea
(c) Zimbabwe (d) Tanzania
(e) Uzbekistan

75 Which State has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of 450 crore with Israel for various developmental works of the State?

- (a) Bihar (b) Orissa
(c) Maharashtra (d) Punjab
(e) None of these

76 National Dairy Research Centre is situated at which place?

- (a) Bhopal (b) Dehradun
(c) Anand (d) Pune
(e) Karnal

77 The Capital of 'United Arab Emirates' is

- (a) Addis Ababa (b) Abu Dhabi
(c) Teheran (d) Baghdad
(e) Amman

78 The science which deals in functioning, research and development in extreme low temperature is known as

- (a) Cryptography (b) Cryogenics
(c) Ceramics (d) Mycology
(e) Cytogenics

79 Humanity Protection Forum (HPF), an organisation for observing Human Rights violation, is set up among which community?

- (a) Nepali (b) Gorkha
(c) Chakmas (d) Nagas
(e) None of these

80 Which among the following is the German Airlines?

- (a) Lufthansa (b) Aeroflot
(c) Transworld (d) Quantas
(e) JAL

81 In the Historical Judgement of the Supreme Court, services of whom has been brought under the ambit of Consumer Protection Act, 1956?

- (a) Scientists (b) Doctors

- (c) Professors (d) Engineers

82. The term 'Off-side' is associated with which game/sports?

- (a) Badminton
(b) Volleyball
(c) Tennis
(d) Hockey
(e) None of these

83. The Indian Parliament passed the 86th Constitutional (Amendment) Bill to facilitate:

- (a) Parliament approved a Constitutional Amendment Bill on Land Reforms Laws, in several States under the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution.
(b) Reservations of seats for promotions of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe employees in the government
(c) The bill passed enabling reformation in the Telecommunication Sector
(d) The Amendment included two hill districts of Assam in the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution

ANSWERS

- | | | | | |
|---------|--|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (d) | 2. (d) | 3. (d) | 4. (b) | 5. (d) |
| 6. (d) | 7. (d) | 8. (d) | 9. (a) | 10. (c) |
| 11. (a) | 12. (a) | 13. (c) | 14. (c) | 15. (c) |
| 16. (a) | 17. (c) | 18. (a) | 19. (c) | 20. (c) |
| 21. (a) | 22. (c) | 23. (a) | 24. (a) | 25. (a) |
| 26. (a) | 27. (d) | | | |
| 28. (c) | Oxford History of India by Vincent Smith Page 803 | | | |
| 29. (a) | | | | |
| 30. (d) | An Advanced History of India by R.C. Majumdar and others—page 957. | | | |
| 31. (b) | 32. (b) | 33. (b) | 34. (d) | 35. (b) |
| 36. (c) | 37. (b) | 38. (b) | 39. (c) | 40. (b) |
| 41. (b) | 42. (d) | 43. (b) | 44. (b) | 45. (a) |
| 46. (b) | 47. (c) | | | |
| 48. (c) | The 1996 Summer Olympic Games are to be held at Atlanta (U.S.A.)
Sydney (Australia) will be the venue of Summer Olympic Games in the year 2000. | | | |
| 49. (b) | 50. (a) | 51. (d) | 52. (d) | 53. (c) |
| 54. (d) | 55. (d) | 56. (c) | 57. (b) | 58. (c) |
| 59. (b) | 60. (c) | 61. (e) | 62. (b) | 63. (a) |
| 64. (e) | 65. (d) | 66. (d) | 67. (e) | 68. (a) |
| 69. (a) | 70. (b) | 71. (c) | 72. (c) | 73. (c) |
| 74. (a) | 75. (b) | 76. (e) | 77. (b) | 78. (b) |
| 79. (c) | 80. (a) | 81. (b) | 82. (d) | 83. (b) |

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TEST OF REASONING—I

Qs. 1-8. Find out the missing numbers:

1. 83; 82; 81; ...; 69; 60; 33.
(a) 73 (b) 80 (c) 75
(d) 77 (e) None of these
2. 77; 78; 77; 81; 73; ...; 55.
(a) 69 (b) 71 (c) 82
(d) 80 (e) None of these
3. 6, 7, 9; 13; 21; ...
(a) 25 (b) 29 (c) 37
(d) 32 (e) None of these
4. 5; 7; ...; 9, 7; 11; 8; 13.
(a) 8 (b) 6 (c) 10
(d) 7 (e) None of these
5. 4; 8; 12; 24; 36; 72; ...
(a) 108 (b) 96 (c) 92
(d) 86 (e) None of these
6. 9.5; 21; 45; 94; ...; 392
(a) 204 (b) 206 (c) 192
(d) 193 (e) None of these
7. 1, 2; 3, 5, 7, ...
(a) 8 (b) 9 (c) 10
(d) 13 (e) None of these
8. 3, 6; 6, 12; 9; ...; 12
(a) 15 (b) 18 (c) 11
(d) 13 (e) None of these

Qs. 9-12. In questions given below, four out of the five given sets of numbers follow the same pattern while the fifth is different. Your task is to find out the set that does not match with others.

9. (a) 3(58)7 (b) 1(10)3
(c) 2(20)4 (d) 5(51)6
(e) 8(145)9
10. (a) 4(36)2 (b) 10(102)1
(c) 6(121)5 (d) 3(49)4
(e) 7(225)8
11. (a) 8(39)5 (b) 12(44)10
(c) 7(48)1 (d) 9(45)6
(e) 5(17)2
12. (a) 5(68)9 (b) 11(8)13
(c) 3(27)6 (d) 7(125)12
(e) 6(64)10

Qs. 13-16. If + is \times , - is +, \times is + and + is -, then:

13. $21 + 8 + 2 - 12 \times 3 = ?$
(a) 14 (b) 9 (c) 13.5
(d) 11 (e) None of these

14. $6 + 7 \times 3 - 8 + 20 = ?$
(a) -3 (b) 7 (c) 2
(d) 1 (e) None of these
15. $15 \times 5 + 3 + 1 - 1 = ?$
(a) -1 (b) -2 (c) 3
(d) 1 (e) None of these
16. $9 - 3 + 2 + 16 \times 2 = ?$
(a) 7 (b) 5 (c) 9
(d) 6 (e) None of these

Qs. 17 to 20. Write the first half of the alphabets, spacing them in such a way that a letter can be inserted between each two. Insert the remaining half letters in the gaps respectively and end the series with Z.

Now answer the following questions:

17. 'H' is between
(a) R and S (b) U and V
(c) S and T (d) T and U
(e) None of these
18. The letter after 'W' is
(a) J (b) X (c) I
(d) K (e) None of these
19. Which popular word can be formed with the 9th, 17th, 21st and 23rd letters?
20. Which letter is exactly in the middle of 17th letter from the right and 14th from the left?
(a) F (b) S (c) G
(d) U (e) None of these

Qs. 21 to 25. Find the odd-man out:

21. (a) DFHB (b) KMOJ
(c) PRTN (d) XZBV
(e) GIKE
22. (a) CX (b) FU
(c) LN (d) HS
(e) KP
23. (a) JKMP (b) GHJM
(c) WXZC (d) STWZ
(e) KLNQ
24. (a) GEK (b) MKQ
(c) RPV (d) ECH
(e) PNT
25. (a) RNMQ (b) GDCF
(c) LIHK (d) TQPS
(e) AXWZ

Qs. 26 to 55. Given below are two sets of figures, the Problem Figures and the Answer Figures marked A, B, C, D and E. You have to find out which of the Answer Figures would be the next one in the series of Problem Figure

PROBLEM FIGURES

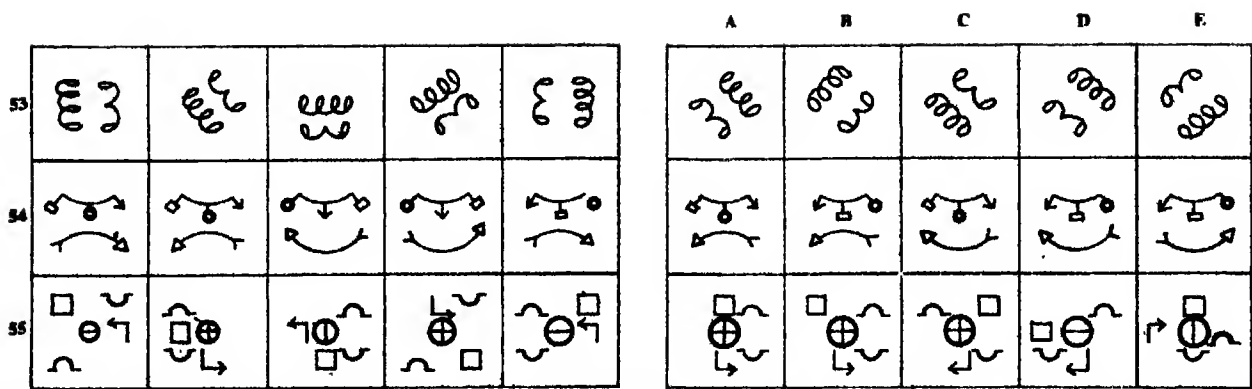
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ANSWER FIGURES

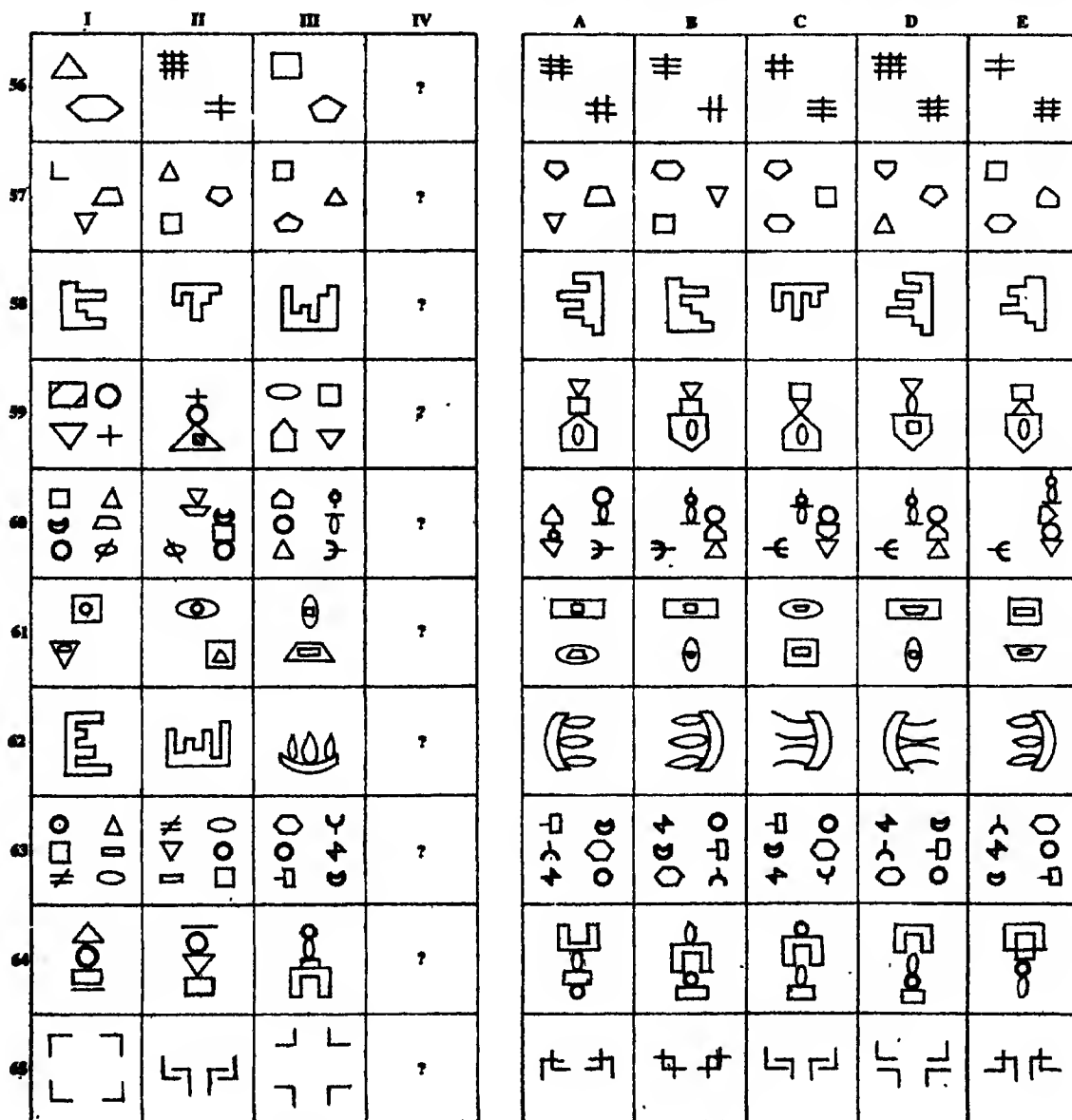
A	B	C	D	E

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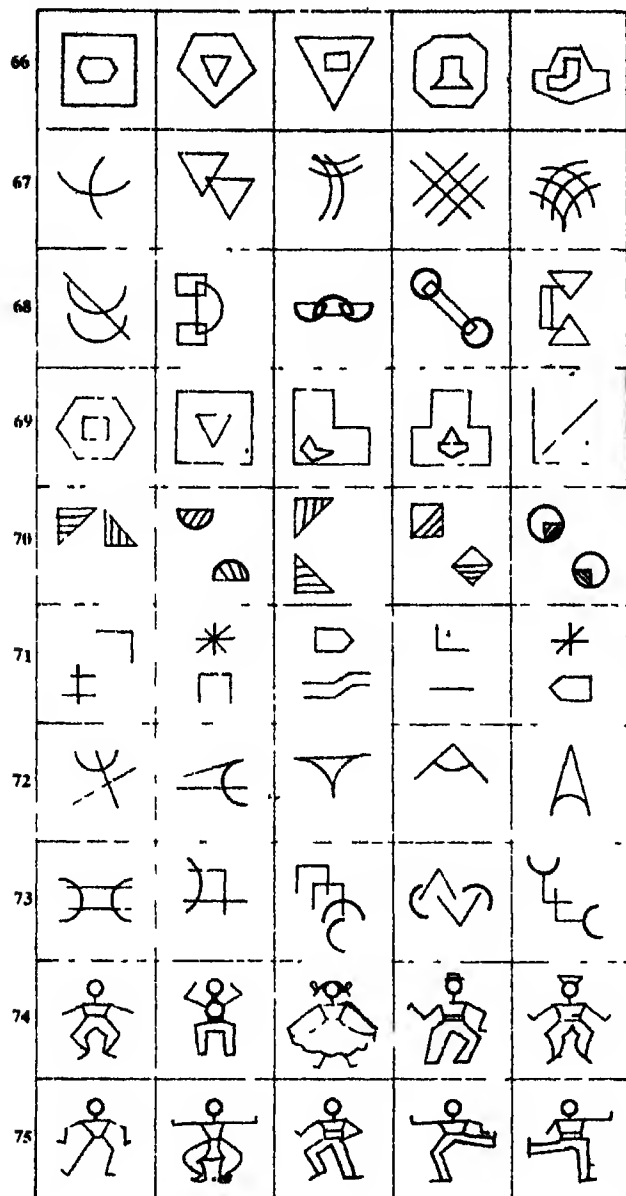
A	B	C	D	E



Given below are two sets of figures, the Problem Figures, numbered I, II, III and IV and the Answer Figures A, B, C, D and E. Your task is to find out which of the Answer Figures has the same relationship with fig. III as II has with I.



Find the odd-man out:



ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (d) Go on deducting $1^2; 1^3; 2^2; 2^3; 3^2 \dots$ from numbers.
2. (c) Add 1^2 ; deduct 1^3 ; add 2^2 ; deduct 2^3 ; add 3^2 ; ...
3. (c) The next number is double -5 of the preceding number.
4. (b) There are two series: 5, 6, 7, 8 .. and 7, 9, 11, 13 ...
5. (a) Make sets of three: $4 \times 2 = 8$; $4 \times 3 = 12$; $12 \times 2 = 24$; $12 \times 3 = 36$; $36 \times 2 \dots$
6. (d) Double the first number and add 2; double the second number and add 3; double the third number and add 4 ...
7. (e) 11. It is the series of prime numbers.
8. (b) There are two series, 3, 6, 9 ... and 6, 12, 18.
9. (d) In all the others the number in the bracket is the total

of squares of the numbers on left and right.

10. (b) Add the numbers outside the brackets, the square of the total is the number in the bracket.
11. (e) Deduct the square of number on the right from the square of the number on the left.
12. (a) Deduct the number of the left from number on the right. The number in the bracket is this number's cube.
13. (b) 14 (c) 15. (d) 16. (a) 17. (d)
18. (d) 19. LIKE 20. (b) 21. (b) 22. (c)
23. (d) 24. (d) 25. (a)

For answering the next set of questions, keep the following points in mind:

- (i) Study each figure of the question independently as well as in relationship with other figures.
- (ii) Movement of each figure ought to be studied very carefully. The figure may change direction at its own place (e.g. Qs. 37, 43, 48 etc.) or may tilt, swing, turn upside down, rotate or bend at a certain angle during its movement which may be clockwise, anti-clockwise, right left, up and down, from corner to corner or along certain points. All the figures of the question need not follow the same direction. (e.g. Qs. 26, 28, 35, 38, 44, 55 etc.)
- (iii) The speed of the movement may be uniform, or the figure may gain or lose speed with each step. It may take one stride in one movement and two in the next. The speed of all the figures in a question need not be the same (e.g. Qs. 28, 30, 50, 55 etc.)
- (iv) Something may be added or dropped from the figure in each step or according to a definite pattern. (e.g. Qs. 39, 40, 51 etc.)
- (v) The figures may interchange places according to a set pattern. (e.g. Qs. 33, 38, 46, 54 etc.)

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 26. B | 27. E | 28. A | 29. D | 30. D |
| 31. B | 32. A | 33. C | 34. D | 35. A |
| 36. E | 37. B | 38. D | 39. A | 40. E |
| 41. B | 42. E | 43. C | 44. C | 45. E |
| 46. A | 47. D | 48. C | 49. B | 50. F |
| 51. C | 52. A | 53. D | 54. B | 55. A |
56. A. The number of lines in each figure cross one another.
 57. C. Each figure has one side extra.
 58. E. The figures fit into one another.
 59. B. Figures blend together in a definite pattern.
 60. D. Figures form groups of one, two and three.
 61. B. Figures interchange places and change in size.
 62. B. The same figure turns at an angle of 90° .
 63. A. Figures interchange places.
 64. D. Same as 59.
 65. B. Lines come together according to a pattern.
 66. C. The inner figure ought to have two sides extra.
 67. D. The figures/lines crossing each other ought to be identical.
 68. C. One figure should be different from the other two.
 69. A. The inner figure should have only one side less.
 70. B. The pattern is wrong.
 71. E. One of the figures should have one straight line more.
 72. C. All the others have one curve and two straight lines.
 73. B. All the others have two arcs and two identical figures made with straight lines.
 74. D. Right and left arms and legs ought to be in the same position.
 75. B. Opposite arms and legs match.

TEST OF REASONING—II

Find the odd-man out:

1. (a) sky (b) star (c) planet
(d) comet (e) moon
2. (a) cluster (b) gang (c) herd
(d) brand (e) bevy
3. (a) hatred (b) laughter (c) adoration
(d) love (e) dislike
4. (a) cooler (b) heater (c) umbrella
(d) stove (e) fan
5. (a) teeth (b) tongue (c) palate
(d) chin (e) gum
6. (a) potato (b) onion (c) tomato
(d) carrot (e) turnip
7. (a) chess (b) ludo (c) snake-ladder
(d) cards (e) draught-board
8. (a) torrent (b) lake (c) river
(d) stream (e) water-fall

In questions 9 to 16, the two items given in each question have a definite relationship. Your task is to find out the pair with similar relationship from (a), (b), (c) and (d).

9. diamond : ring
(a) gold : silver (b) flowers : vase
(c) minister : chair (d) boat : lake
10. enter : exit
(a) welcome : guest (b) insult : dislike
(c) punishment : crime (d) former : latter
11. ball : play
(a) bat : cricket (b) water : liquid
(c) clothes : wear (d) chair : furniture
12. mirror : reflect
(a) beauty : enchantment (b) fire : burn
(c) road : vehicles (d) money : earning
13. dawn : morning
(a) spring : summer (b) sun : moon
(c) week : month (d) birth : death
14. war : soldier
(a) accident : ambulance (b) epidemic : doctor
(c) court : judge (d) country : government
15. mumble : speech
(a) fall : run (b) faint : unconscious
(c) stagger : walk (d) malaria : disease
16. coffee : beverage
(a) water : ocean (b) food : survival
(c) sleep : dream (d) lipstick : cosmetics

Match questions 17 to 22 with (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) on the basis of similar relationship among items. The order of the items may not be the same.

17. sun : heat : perspiration
(a) shoes : sandals : slippers.
18. knife : steel : utensils
(b) rain : flood : clouds.
19. bicycle : car : bus
(c) Taj Mahal : U.P. : Agra
20. forest : rhinoceros : tiger

(d) root : tree : branch

21. trunk : tusk : elephant
(e) tyre : eraser : rubber
22. intestines : body : stomach
(f) whale : octopus : sea

Qs. 23-24. A group of seven singers, facing the audience are standing in a line on the stage as follows:

D is to the right of C.

F is near G.

B is to the left of F.

E is to the left of A.

C and B have one person between them.

A and D have one singer between them.

23. Who is on the extreme right?

- (a) D (b) F (c) G
(d) E (e) None of these

24. If we start counting from the left, on which number is C?

- (a) 1st (b) 2nd (c) 3rd
(d) 5th (e) None of these

Questions 25 to 27 are based on the word IMPERSONATE

25. How many sets of two letters have as many letters between them as they have in the alphabetical order?

- (a) 2 (b) 4 (c) 6
(d) 7 (e) None of these

26. If the first three and the last two letters are left out, which popular word can be formed with the remaining letters?

27. If all the 11 letters in the word were to be arranged alphabetically, which letter would be exactly in the middle?

- (a) M (b) P (c) R
(d) N (e) None of these

The words in questions 28 to 33 have been given in their coded form as well, each small letter representing one of the capital letters. Your task is to find out the right code for the letters enclosed in box.

28. P A Y M E T
(a) b (b) g (c) q (d) j (e) k
(f) d (g) h

29. E X A C T L Y
(a) u (b) d (c) k (d) g (e) r
(f) m (g) b

30. A N O T H E R
(a) z (b) q (c) x (d) d (e) b
(f) f (g) k

31. M A C H I N E
(a) d (b) f (c) b (d) q (e) w
(f) r (g) j

32. L E I S U R E
(a) w (b) b (c) p (d) m (e) b
(f) x (g) v

33. T **H** I R S T Y

- (a) f (b) k (c) g (d) x (e) k
(f) r (g) w

34. In 1994, Mr Dharamvir celebrated his birthday on Sunday in the second week of July while his wife Shanta celebrated hers on 2nd September which happened to be Friday. On which date of July does Mr Dharamvir's birthday fall?

- (a) 8th (b) 9th (c) 10th
(d) 11th (e) None of these

35. Immediately after a theft, the police caught three suspects A, B and C. A was wearing black shirt, blue trousers and white shoes, B was wearing white shirt, black trousers and blue shoes while C had blue shirt, white trousers and black shoes. Three persons D, E and F were called as witnesses. The police knew that each of the witnesses was giving one correct and two wrong facts. You have to find out who among A, B and C is the thief as identified by the witnesses.

D—The thief wore blue shirt, white trousers and black shoes

E—The thief was wearing white shoes, black trousers and blue shirt.

F—The thief was wearing white shirt, black shoes and blue trousers

Who is the thief?

- (a) A (b) B (c) C
(d) Can't be established

Five places of tourist interest A, B, C, D and E are famous for their museum, lake, fort, game sanctuary and an age old temple but not in the same order.

A and D do not have museum or a game sanctuary

C and E have no fort

B has no museum and F has no lake

D and B do not have any fort or lake.

Now match the places with the spot they are famous for:

- | | |
|-------|--------------------|
| 36. A | (a) museum |
| 37. B | (b) lake |
| 38. C | (c) fort |
| 39. D | (d) game sanctuary |
| 40. E | (e) temple |

SYLLOGISMS

In each question below are given two statements followed by four conclusions numbered I, II, III and IV. You have to take the two given statements to be true even if they seem to be at variance from commonly known facts. Read all the conclusions and then decide which of the given conclusions logically follows from the two given statements, disregarding commonly known facts.

Statements:

41. 1. Some apples are balls.
2. All balls are cups.

Conclusions:

- I. All cups are balls.
II. Some apples are cups.
III. Some apples are not cups.
IV. Some balls are not apples.

- (a) Only I follows.
(b) Only I and II follow.
(c) Only II and III follow.
(d) Only IV follows.

- (e) Either III or IV follows.

Statements:

42. 1. All dogs are elephants.
2. All elephants are flowers.

Conclusions:

- I. Some flowers are dogs.
II. No dog is flower.
III. All dogs are flowers.
IV. All elephants are dogs.

- (a) Only I and III follow.
(b) Only II and III follow.
(c) Only II and IV follow.
(d) All the conclusions follow.
(e) None follows.

Statements:

43. 1. Some goats are horses.
2. Some horses are icebergs

Conclusions:

- I. Some goats are icebergs.
II. Some horses are not goats.
III. No goat is an iceberg
IV. Every iceberg is either horse or goat

- (a) Only I follows.
(b) Either II or III follows
(c) Only I and II follow
(d) Either III or IV follows
(e) Either I or III follows

Statements:

44. 1. All jugs are kettles
2. Some kettles are lids.

Conclusions:

- I. All jugs are lids
II. Some lids are jugs
III. Some kettles are not jugs.
IV. Every jug is either kettle or lid.

- (a) Only I follows.
(b) Only II follows
(c) Only III follows
(d) Either II or IV follows
(e) None follows

Statements:

45. 1. Some monkeys are nuts.
2. Some owls are nuts

Conclusions:

- I. Some monkeys are owls.
II. No monkey is an owl.
III. Every nut is either a monkey or owl.
IV. All the nuts are monkeys as well as owls.

- (a) Only I follows.
(b) Either I or II follows.
(c) Either III or IV follows.
(d) Only IV follows.
(e) All the four follow.

Statements:

46. 1. Some pillows are quilts.
2. All rugs are quilts.

Conclusions:

- I. All quilts are pillows.
II. All quilts are rugs.
III. Some rugs are pillows.
IV. Every quilt is either a rug or a pillow.

- (a) Only I follows.

- (b) Only II follows.
- (c) Only III follows.
- (d) Only IV follows.
- (e) None follows.

Statements:

- 47. 1. All shirts are umbrellas.
- 2. All trousers are umbrellas.

Conclusions:

- I. Half the umbrellas are shirts.
- II. Some umbrellas are trousers as well as shirts.
- III. All the umbrellas are either trousers or shirts.
- IV. No umbrella is trouser as well as shirt.
- (a) Only I and II follow.
- (b) Only II and III follow.
- (c) Only III and IV follow.
- (d) Either II or IV follows.
- (e) Only I, III and IV follow.

Statements:

- 48. 1. Some violets are yellow.
- 2. Every yellow item is white.

Conclusions:

- I. Some violets are white.
- II. Violets that are yellow are not white.
- III. All white items are yellow.
- IV. All violets are white.
- (a) Only I follows.
- (b) Only II follows.
- (c) Only III and IV follow.
- (d) Either I or II follows.
- (e) None follows.

In each question below is given a statement followed by three assumptions numbered I, II and III. An assumption is something supposed or taken for granted. You have to consider the statement and the assumptions and decide which of the assumptions is implicit in the statement. Then decide which of the answers is correct.

Statement:

49. Light takes 3000 years to go from one galaxy to the other.

Assumptions:

- I. There are many galaxies in space.
- II. All the galaxies are at equal distance from our galaxy.
- III. Light travels very slowly.
- (a) Only I is implicit.
- (b) Only II is implicit.
- (c) Only III is implicit.
- (d) None is implicit.
- (e) All are implicit.

Statement:

50. The Observation Homes set up under the amended Juvenile Justice Act 1986, do not offer any home environment to the young offenders.

Assumptions:

- I. It was felt that the young boys who commit some crime should not be kept in regular prisons.
- II. The custodians of law were not satisfied with the Juvenile Justice Act prior to 1986.
- III. The Observation Homes do not have the right type of environment.
- (a) Only I and II are implicit.
- (b) Only III is implicit.

- (c) Only II and III are implicit.
- (d) All are implicit.
- (e) None is implicit.

Statement:

51. It is reported that during the round the clock telecast entitled "India Votes '96", the NDTV team was fed in 'five-star luxury' while the DD team almost starved.

Assumptions:

- I. The performance of NDTV team was much superior to the performance of the DD team.
- II. Financially, the NDTV is better off than the DD.
- III. The authorities got angry with the DD team for their blatant frankness.
- (a) Only I is implicit.
- (b) Only II is implicit.
- (c) Only III is implicit.
- (d) Either I or II is implicit.
- (e) None is implicit.

Statement:

52. Although Mr X's lawyer advocated his case to the best of his capacity, bail was not granted to Mr X.

Assumptions:

- I. Mr X's lawyer was not very competent.
- II. The judge was biased against Mr X.
- III. There was no provision of bail in crime committed by Mr X.
- (a) Only I is implicit.
- (b) Only II is implicit.
- (c) Only II and III are implicit.
- (d) All are implicit.
- (e) Either I or III is implicit.

Statement:

53. Vegetables, specially the root-vegetables must be properly washed before using them.

Assumptions:

- I. The water used for irrigation is usually not very clean.
- II. The soil in which the vegetables grow may contain bacteria which is harmful to us.
- III. Proper washing cleans the vegetables from any outer infection they might contain.
- (a) Only I and II are implicit.
- (b) Only III is implicit.
- (c) Only II and III are implicit.
- (d) None is implicit.
- (e) All are implicit.

Statement:

54. A devastating fire broke out in the main market of a metropolitan near the hotel complex.

Assumptions:

- I. Some gas cylinder burst.
- II. There was a short circuit.
- III. Some terrorists must have planted bomb in the area.
- (a) Only I is implicit.
- (b) Only II is implicit.
- (c) Only III is implicit.
- (d) Any one of the three is implicit.
- (e) None is implicit.

Statement:

55. The percentage of listeners interested in classical music is much lower than to those who listen to popular film

music.

Assumptions:

- I. Classical music does not appeal to the heart.
- II. For the appreciation of classical arts, one has to have special knowledge and understanding.
- III. Classical music is broadcast or telecast quite late in the night.

- (a) Only I is implicit.
- (b) Only II is implicit.
- (c) Only III is implicit.
- (d) None is implicit.
- (e) Either II or III is implicit.

Statement:

56. In the field of management, women are proving to be more efficient than men.

Assumptions:

- I. Men are rather short tempered.
- II. Women have a natural flair for management.
- III. Women are, physically, stronger than men.

- (a) Only I is implicit.
- (b) Only I and II are implicit.
- (c) Only II is implicit.
- (d) Only III is implicit.
- (e) Only II and III are implicit.

Qs. 57-61. In each question below is given a statement followed by three courses of action numbered I, II and III. A course of action is a step or administrative decision to be taken for improvement, follow-up or further action in regard to the problem, policy etc. on the basis of the information given in the statement. You have to assume everything in the statement to be true, then decide which of the three suggested courses of action logically follows for pursuing.

Statement:

57. Some of the historical monuments are very much neglected and are in a lamentable condition.

Courses of action:

- I. The department of tourism should make a survey of such monuments and make arrangements for their proper maintenance.
- II. The old structure should be demolished and a new similar structure should take its place to give it a better look.
- III. Some private sectors should be requested to take such places under their wing as they can maintain them better as compared to the government.

- (a) Only I follows.
- (b) Only II follows.
- (c) Only III follows.
- (d) Only I and III follow.
- (e) Either I or III follows.

Statement:

58. Dehydration takes the toll of many small babies in summers, specially in rural areas.

Courses of action:

- I. The causes of dehydration should be regularly made known to the people through mass-media.
- II. Summer camps should be organized to make the rural people aware of the disease.
- III. Free packets of life saving powder of salt and sugar should be available at all health care centres.

- (a) Only I and II follow.

- (b) Only II and III follow.
- (c) Either I or III follows.
- (d) None follows.
- (e) All the three follow.

Statement:

59. The huge plush farm houses of the influential and the rich, cropping up near all the big cities in the natural forest area are destroying the entire flora and fauna.

Courses of action:

- I. No encroachment of any sort should be allowed outside the limits set for the development of the city.
- II. These farm houses should be taken away from the owners and turned into forest resorts.
- III. The owners of these houses should be ordered to plant a lot of trees in the area owned by them.

- (a) Only I and II follow.
- (b) Only II and III follow.
- (c) Either II or III follows.
- (d) Only I and III follow.
- (e) Only II follows.

Statement:

60. Some of the villagers complained that the officer in charge refused to register an FIR they wanted to lodge against the outrageous behaviour of some policemen.

Courses of action:

- I. The officer in charge should be served a show cause notice.
- II. The authorities should look into the matter personally.
- III. The villagers should be cross questioned.

- (a) Only I follows.
- (b) Only I and II follow.
- (c) Only II follows.
- (d) Either II or III follows.
- (e) None follows.

Statement:

61. The department of school education is rather worried about mushrooming of schools, mostly run by unskilled persons.

Courses of action:

- I. No one should be allowed to open a school without the permission of the department.
- II. The department should have the authority to go to any school for surprise inspection and stop it from functioning if irregularities are detected.
- III. There should be a legal punishment for the owners of these schools if they appoint unskilled teachers.

- (a) Only I follows.
- (b) Only II follows.
- (c) Only III follows.
- (d) All the three follow.
- (e) Either II or III follows.

62. Abha, Beena, Chitra, Dhanwanti and Emma are five friends. To find out in which order they would stand according to their height, which of the following informations are sufficient?

- I. Chitra is taller than Abha but shorter than Emma.
- II. Abha is taller than Beena.

III. Dhanwanti is taller than Beena but shorter than Abha.

- (a) Only I and II are sufficient.
- (b) Only II and III are sufficient.
- (c) Only I and III are sufficient.
- (d) All the three are needed.
- (e) Either I or III is sufficient.

63. Four players P, Q, R and S play a different game each, i.e. football, cricket, tennis and badminton, which of the following statements would tell us definitely about the game played by Q?

- I. R and S do not play cricket or tennis nor P plays tennis.
- II. Q does not play football or cricket.
- III. P plays cricket.

- (a) Only I is sufficient.
- (b) Only II is sufficient.
- (c) Both I and II are sufficient.
- (d) Either I or II is sufficient.
- (e) The answer can't be established.

64. During their engagement party on Nov 5th, which happened to be a Sunday, Arti and Mukesh informed their friends happily:

- I. On the second Sunday of the next month, we shall get married.
- II. Just one month and five days more and we shall be husband and wife.
- III. Our marriage has been fixed in the next month, exactly on the mid-day between 7th and 13th.

Which of the statements is/are necessary to guess the right date of their marriage?

- (a) Only I and II.
- (b) Only II and III.
- (c) All the three.
- (d) Any one from the three.
- (e) Only I and III.

Below is given a passage followed by several possible inferences which can be drawn from the facts stated in the passage. You have to examine each inference separately in the context of the passage and decide upon its degree of truth or falsity. Mark your answers:

- (a) if the inference is definitely true.
- (b) if probably true.
- (c) if the data is inadequate, hence doubtful.
- (d) if probably false.
- (e) if definitely false.

Anti-nuclear German protesters clashed with police when a shipment of nuclear waste was being moved to a medium-term storage depot in Gorleben, 120 kilometres from Hanover. At least two protesters were injured and dozens detained as violence broke out. A train was carrying nuclear waste from France. The police who were present in large numbers used tear-gas, water cannons and batons to disperse the crowd of over a hundred demonstrators. The waste, which crossed into Germany from France at midday had made its way through most of the country practically unhindered and had eluded observers from the environmental group Greenpeace.

65. The transportation of the nuclear waste was being made quite secretly.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

66. The environmental group Greenpeace did not have any members in the part of the country through which the train had travelled.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

67. The authorities were expecting protests from the environmental group.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

68. It had been the usual practice of France to dump its nuclear waste in Germany.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

69. Nuclear waste is harmful for environment.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

70. The protesters were also loaded with arms to match the police.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (a) All the others are heavenly bodies that move in space.
2. (d) All the others are related to a group.
3. (b) All the others are emotions.
4. (d) All the others are used for protection against the severity of weather.
5. (d) All the other parts are inside the mouth
6. (c) All the others are root vegetables.
7. (d) All the other games are played on a board.
8. (b) All the others have flowing water.
9. (b) One adorns the other.
10. (d) The words are antonyms.
11. (c) The items have the thing and the way it is used relationship.
12. (b) The relationship is that of the item and it is prime natural function.
13. (a) One is followed by the other.
14. (b) The items have the disaster and the member of the team that fights it relationship.
15. (c) One is a weaker type of expression of the other.
16. (d) It is the item and the general category it belongs to relationship.
17. (b) 18. (c) 19. (a) 20. (f) 21. (d)
22. (c) 23. (c)
24. (c) The arrangement is Right—G F B D C A E—Left. As they face the audience.
25. (c) 1A, 1O, 1P, 1S, 1R and 1N.
26. REASON.
27. (d) The arrangement would be AEEIMNOPRST

For answering questions 28 to 33, sort out common letters in the words and match them with common codes, e.g. 'A' is common in the first four words, so are 'E' and 'N' in 28th, 30th and 31st, hence the code for 'N' would be 'q', the code for 'E' 'b' as it occurs in the next question too and the code for 'A' would be 'd'.

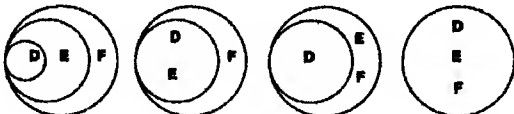
- 28. (b) 29. (e) 30. (d) 31. (d) 32. (c)
- 33. (a) 34. (c) 35. (c) 36. (c) 37. (d)
- 38. (b) 39. (e) 40. (a)

For answering the next type of questions, the best way is to draw sketches of all the probable arrangements and then reach the fool-proof conclusion. Let each item be represented by a circle, irrespective of its size. Here are a few examples as guidelines.

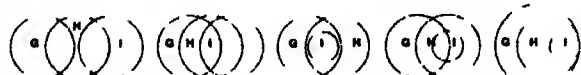
41 (c)



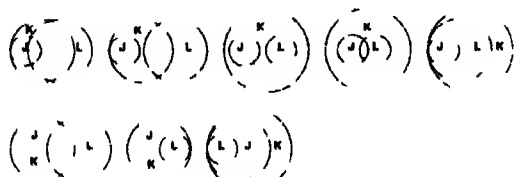
42 (a)



43. (c)



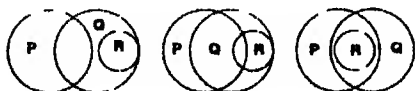
44 (c)



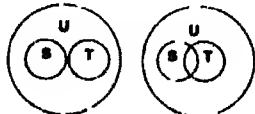
45 (h)



46 (c)



47 (d)



48 (n)



49. (a) 50. (d) 51. (b) 52. (c) 53. (c)
 54. (d) 55. (b) 56. (c) 57. (a) 58. (c)
 59. (d) 60. (b) 61. (d) 62. (c) 63. (a)
 64. (d) 65. (b) 66. (d) 67. (a) 68. (c)
 69. (a) 70. (c)

CORRECTION

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ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

10. (c) Both are similar activities but one is harsh the other is soft and pleasant.
 11. (a) One is specially made for the safe keeping of the other.
 12. (d) One is operated by the other.

The errors are regretted.

—Editor.

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K. Karunanidhi: Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

Prafulla Kumar Mohanta: Chief Minister of Assam.

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V. Vaitilingam: Chief Minister of Pondicherry.

Pranab Mukherjee: Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission.

Milon K. Banerjee: Attorney General of India.

DIED

N. Sanjiva Reddy: Former President of India. He was 83.

Karuna Saha: Renowned painter and member of the "panchkanya group". She was 75.

Tim Gullikson: Former tennis player who coached Pete Sampras. He died of brain cancer at the age of 44.

Rusi Shrieriyar Modi: Former cricketer Modi, 72, fell to his death from the third floor terrace of the Cricket Club of India.

Janaki Ramachandran: Widow of AIADMK founder and former Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran. She was 72.

EVENTS

MAY

5—Conservative Jose Maria Aznar is sworn in as Spanish Prime Minister, ending 13 years of socialist rule.

10—The tenth Lok Sabha is dissolved by the President following recommendation by the Union Cabinet.

12—A passenger jetliner crashes near Miami international airport, killing all 109 people on board.

14—More than 700 people are killed and 33,000 injured as tornado hits two districts of Bangladesh.

16—BJP leader Atal Behari Vajpayee is sworn in as India's 11th Prime Minister.

—Tinsukhia SP R.K. Singh and two security personnel are killed in a shootout in Assam.

17—Editor of Sadin-Pratidin group of newspapers, Parag Das, is shot dead in Guwahati.

18—At least 35 people are killed and 30 villages burnt as ethnic violence rocks Kokrajhar district in Assam.

20—Iraq and UN sign an oil-for-food deal allowing Baghdad to sell its oil in international markets for the first time in six years.

—Bangladesh's President Abdur Rahman Biswas sacks the Army Chief Lt Gen Abu Saleh Muhammed Nasim, accusing him of revolt.

21—At least 25 people are killed in a powerful bomb blast in the crowded market of Lajpat Nagar in New Delhi.

22—At least 22 passengers are killed when a bomb rips through a Rajasthan Road-

ways bus in Dausa district.

23—Baramulla and Anantnag constituencies in J&K see an estimated 40 to 50 per cent polling, inspite of a bandh call by militants.

27—Cabinet ratifies the Enron power project in Maharashtra.

28—Prime Minister A.B. Vajpayee resigns after BJP fails to get the support of other parties in Lok Sabha, to prove majority.

30—Curfew is imposed in Calcutta after two people are killed in police firing.

JUNE

1—H.D. Deve Gowda is sworn in as India's 12th Prime Minister.

MILESTONES

Khagapati Pradhani: Congress member of the Lok Sabha from Orissa since 1967. He has created a record by registering his eighth straight win in the parliamentary elections. He trounced his Janata Dal rival Jadav Majhi by over 2.03 lakh votes in the Nawarangpur reserved constituency.

P. M. Sayeed: Former Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, he too has been elected for the eighth time in a row. Sayeed and Pradhani have qualified to enter the Guinness Book of Records for their achievement.

Gaddam Atma Charan Reddy: The first NRI to be elected to Parliament. Reddy, 46, fought on a Congress ticket from Nizamabad in Andhra Pradesh.

Alicia Machado: Miss Venezuela, who became Miss Universe '96 succeeding Chelsi Smith of USA.

Ravi Shastri: Former Indian cricket captain, who has been appointed UNICEF's national ambassador for children.

Laloo Prasad Kushwaha: Weighing 13 kg, he is the lightest man of the world. He became a father recently when his wife delivered a child in Allahabad.

Ananta Satyarthi: Student of class 6 of Apeejay School, New Delhi, she was the star witness before a Congressional hearing on child labour in the US. She is the daughter of child labour activist Kailash Satyarthi.

Pete Peterson: Former Malaysian Prisoner of War, who has been nominated as the first US ambassador to Vietnam after the war.

Ang Rita Sherpa: The 48-year-old Sherpa from Nepal, popularly known as 'Snow Leopard', who has climbed the world's highest peak ten times.

Dihaan Panjwani and Dilnora Indu: Canadian sisters aged 14 and 13, respectively, who are part of "Team Canada" for an international science and engineering fair in the USA. The sisters won a top prize for their research on burnout among teachers.

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